THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 6TH APRIL.

REGARDING the rumoured collision between Colonel Ridgeway's party and the Turkoman subjects of Russia near Panjdeh, the *Pioneer* observes:—"We have, moreover, collateral evidence of a kind that some *contretemps*, more or less approximating to a mishap, has certainly befallen that section of our Boundary Commission which under Colonel Ridgeway's command left the main body for Panjdeh. There, it must be remembered, the rumour to which we have referred, locates the alleged killing of our officers; and there, too, we have means of knowing that something not very different from an actual collision occurred. More than this, there has been so obvious a determination on the part of Sir Peter Lumsden to prevent news of any kind of importance reaching the Indian newspapers, that the natural inference that something of a disagreeable nature required concealment is almost unavoidable." Lower down he quotes a portion of his special correspondent's letter which goes to show that the British Boundary Commission was opposed at Panjdeh by "armed bands." Soon after this, the intelligence of a collision reached India. From the meagre evidence before us, we are inclined to think, that some sort of misfortune overtook the Commission at Panjdeh, early last month.

AMONG the different items of news brought to us by the last mail, we read that "Lord Dufferin cabled a denial to the statement made in Parliament that the Rent Bill was being rushed through the Council. Lord Ripon asserts that the changes in the measure favour the zemindars too much." Regarding the first portion of the news, we have not only this much to say that most of the amendments were not at all discussed in the Council, they were merely put to the vote, and the 'ayes and noes' were counted. In respect of the last item, we humbly state that the opinion of our ex-Viceroy is true in a sense. Really, the Act favours the zemindars too much, because it does not embody a section directly ordering the confiscation of the property of the Landlords of Bengal and Bihar. We doubt not that if the whole case of the aggrieved landholding classes of this province were laid before such a demolisher of the landed aristocracy as Henry George, even he would have shrugged his shoulders and turned his face against this iniquitous, hurtful and wicked measure. The case of the zemindars is before the British nation, and we hope, full justice will be meted out to that oppressed but important class of Her Majesty's subjects.

THE FOLLOWING letter has been sent to H. R. H. the Prince of Wales by the "Irish Revolutionary Directory" from France:—"To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Grand Master of the English Freemasons; Sir,—The good will shown by your Royal Highness in your promised visit to Ireland makes it necessary for us, whose hatred of English misrule is so pronounced, to draw a distinction between any unreasonable and fanatic attack upon yourself, and the terrible warfare of fire and steel which we shall infallibly continue when our organising powers are more complete and ready. Once for all, the members of the Irish Revolutionary Directory desire to assure you of your perfect safety and that of the Princess while you are on the sacred soil of Ireland. Go and see for yourself what the Irish people have suffered, and we shall thank you, although you are the residuary legatee of a century of usurpation and attempted extermination. There is another and graver reason why this step should be taken. The day has passed when Irish patriots thought they could save Ireland by some scheme of an Anglo-Hibernian Republic. She now stands alone, and the life of your Royal Highness, apart from the good feeling likely to arise from your proposed journey, has no definite connection with Ireland's aspirations and Ireland's wrongs."

"THERE ARE just now an unusual number of Royal authors in the world. Among reigning Sovereigns and their consorts may be counted Queen Victoria; King Oscar II., of Sweden; Don Louis, of Portugal; the Shah Nasruddeen, of Persia; Queen Elizabeth, of Roumania; Prince Nicholas, of Montenegro: Don Pedro II., of Brazil; and, so it is said, King Louis II., of Bavaria; and among other literary Royalties are the Imperial Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria; the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Albert Victor, and Prince George of Wales, the Prince Christian, the Imperial Crown Princess of Germany, Prince Lucien Bonaparte, and several others. There are also many Royal artists, musicians, and priests. There is probably, however, but one Royal doctor. Duke Charles Theodore, of Bavaria, is in practice at Munich, and is a surgeon-oculist of high reputation in his own country. It must be a strange experience, after consulting this princely Esculapius, to press a 20 mark note into his hand, but in these days there are some princes who would not be above receiving an even smaller sum."

TUESDAY, 7TH APRIL.

AN UP-COUNTRY contemporary tells us that rumours of certain reductions in the Benares College are afloat. We hope, Sir Alfred Lyall will not follow the footsteps of Sir George Couper nor of Sir Rivers Thompson in matters educational.

SIR LEPEL GRIFFIN, lately speaking at Rutlam, said: "India is rapidly advancing in liberalism and civilization; everywhere the people, like plants that have been reared in darkness, are stretching to the light, which has at last reached them, and it will not do for the Princes to remain behind. Those of ancient birth and great possessions are the hereditary leaders of the people, and they must understand that rank and wealth have responsibilities which cannot be neglected with safety or with honour. There are some who say that the Rajas and Chiefs of India are useless, and that their armies are a danger to the Empire. This is not the belief of the Government of India, which has strengthened the Princes in every possible way, and has secured to them by treaty, and by the grant of the privilege of adoption, the perpetual enjoyment of their wealth and dignities. I firmly believe that the armies of Native States may be a source of great strength to the Government." Does the above tally with the views he had the kindness to enunciate in his Indian Thersites in which he gives the Bengali Baboo the unenviable character of a bribe-taker, and of one too full of platitudes and nonsense? Would, Sir Lepel were consistent everywhere!

WITH REGARD to our relations with Persia, the *Civil and Military Gazette* thus delivers itself:—"However much the Shah and his ministers may hate and fear Russia, they have no reason to love us or rely on our support. We have always opposed their wishes as regards Herat, once a Persian province, and one which, both ethnologically and geographically, is part of Khorasan. And we have twice failed to support them when we were in honour bound to do so. In 1810 we lent Persia British officers to drill and organize her troops, with the avowed purpose of using them against Russia; and three years later we abandoned her to her fate. The treaty of Gulistan was the result; and the Caspian became a Russian lake. Frightened by this, we concluded a new defensive alliance with Persia in 1814; and again, twelve years later, we failed to carry out the engagements we had made, and allowed Russia to dictate terms of peace to her unfortunate neighbour at Turkomanchai. After this, can we expect Persia to rely on us for protection from her powerful neighbour; and can we blame her if she endeavours to make the best of what must be, in any case, a distasteful alliance?" We also think in the same way with our contemporary. The English on previous occasions had quietly taken away the ladder by which they got the Shah to climb the tree. If unhappily the Russo-Afghan crisis ends in a war, we do not believe it would be easy for the British Government to secure the co-operation of the Shah of Persia, as some have thought. But even if it were possible to win the good graces of the scion of Shah Thamasp, it would cost us a mint of money to do so. We wish the matter a speedy and peaceful termination.

THE LONDON Political correspondent of the *Times of India* says in connection with the report that has got abroad regarding the Anglo-Turkish alliance, that the Sultan has agreed to an offensive and defensive alliance with England, and to place a large contingent of the Turkish Army at the disposal of England for creating a diversion in the Caucasus. The Ministry have done well in cementing this alliance with Turkey, for the aid of the Turks would be simply invaluable should hostilities be declared. England, to cope fully with Russia, should carry the war to the home of the enemy as well as meet them on foreign ground; and unless Turkey joins England, England cannot adequately fight the Russians on the soil of Europe. This alliance, therefore, speaks volumes in favour of the foresight of the old man at the helm of the state.

"LORD DUFFERIN is having built near 'Peterhoff' a tennis court such as he made in Canada, and such as at Versailles became so famous at the beginning of the French Revolution. Lord Dufferin's tennis will be very different from what we know as lawn-tennis, but will be a modified form of the kind of tennis played in France or in the England of Charles I, and some of his successors. The new court will be wholly under cover, and Mr. F. B. Hebbert has been requested to construct it on Observetory Hill, the approximate cost being about £3,000. The length of the court designed is 80 feet and the width 35 feet." We presume a tennis court is a necessary appurtenance to a Viceregal residence, and therefore need not ask who will pay the costs of it?

WEDNESDAY, 8TH APRIL.

THE SLAVES, who were landed at Kurrachee by the Commander of *H. M. S. Dragon* in the early part of January last, have all been billetted, under instructions from Colonel Wallace, the Collector, on persons who are likely to treat them kindly and bring them up as useful domestic servants. It will be remembered that there were 25 of these unfortunate people set free here, two of whom died of small-pox with which the party was attacked soon after its arrival, and it may be mentioned that among the persons who have taken charge of these slaves are several European gentlemen, viz, Dr. Pollen, Mr. Steele, Mr. Langley, &c., &c.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor-General in Council has ruled that the subordinate medical staff attached to a State Railway under construction shall be considered as subject to the professional supervision and inspection of the medical officer of the district in which it may for the time being be employed, and to sanction the grant of an extra allowance of Rs. 50, per mensem, as additional remuneration to the District Surgeon of each district in which a State line of railway is being constructed, such additional allowance to cease on the date that the line or section of the line, as the case may be, is opened to public traffic. The allowance will be debited to the capital account of the railway concerned.

"MR. EDMUND Yates was released from Holloway Gaol at half-past eleven o'clock on March 10, a message having been received from the Home Secretary by the governor of the prison directing his immediate discharge. It appears that Mr. Yates himself was unaware of his coming release, as in the morning he gave orders, as usual, for his meals for the day. Mr. Yates looked jaded on his release, and appeared to have lost somewhat of his lithe step. It is stated that Mr. Yates was released in deference to the urgent advice of the medical inspector of the Home Office, who, by Sir William Harcourt's instructions, saw Mr. Yates, twice within an interval of ten days. Mr. Yates who after paying a visit to the *World* office, left for the Continent, where he will remain for the benefit of his health."

NOW THAT the Russian and Afghan outposts are face to face, an incident which occurred when the Russians were before Constantinople in 1878, may be worth recording to show that the Russian soldier is not entirely without a certain sense of humour. "One day a party of Russian infantry soldiers of Skobeleff's division started a game of football from the Russian lines; and, curiously enough, the ball, followed by the kickers, found its way into one of the *tabias*, or redoubts, held by the Turks, notwithstanding the frantic *yassacks* of the unfortunate sentry. The playful soldiers refused to turn out of the work; and, as the Turks felt some diffidence in using force, Skobeleff sent up a large armed detach-

ment to bring off his men, but all to no purpose. The Turks meanwhile had telegraphed the news to Constantinople; and soon all the resources of diplomacy were brought into play; with the result that the Russians after having remained in possession of the captured redoubt for a whole day, graciously consented to evacuate it." With the tendency on the part of the Russians to indulge in such 'little games' at critical moments, it would not be surprising to hear that the Afghans and Russians had come into collision over some such an act of playfulness on the part of some of Alikhanoff's guileless troopers.

THURSDAY, 9TH APRIL.

A CONTEMPORARY in dealing with the Boundary question says:—"Whilst the question of peace or war still hangs in the balance and continues unsettled, and it is yet feasible to believe that there may be no actual rupture with Russia in regard to the Afghan boundary, it may be just as well to state, once for all, that if peace between the two nations is to be at all of a durable character, it is absolutely essential that not a rood of ground which Dost Mahomed claimed as Afghan territory should be alienated in order to the appeasement of Russian earthhunger, and greed of Central Asian rule. Directly it becomes known in Afghanistan and the Central Asian bazaars that England has permitted even a partial disintegration of Afghanistan, and in her anxiety to avoid hostilities with her rival has tacitly allowed any spoliation of the Amir's territory, British prestige will be materially injured both in Europe and Asia. It is this danger which now really confronts England." We hope and trust this determination will be adhered to at all hazards.

WE TAKE the following from a contemporary: "Mr. Nanda Lal Ghosh, Barrister-at-Law, who is now in England, has been interesting himself in questions of Indian politics and addressing various public meetings. The Radicals of one division of Camberwell have requested him to be their candidate. The Council of the Peckham and Dulwich Radical Club intend to formally invite this gentleman to stand for the borough of Dulwich at the next general election. The London *Echo* of the 24th February reported that 'Mr. N. L. Ghosh gave an exposition of his political views to a large audience, under the auspices of the Peckham and Dulwich Radical Club, and at the close the meeting wished him every success in his candidature for any division that might select him." We wish him success too.

IT IS REPORTED from Paris that the German Emperor has written to the Czar impressing upon him the necessity of coming to an understanding with England.

TRUTH ASKS: "Will the authorities be good enough to explain how it happens that Queen's Cadetships and Queen's India Cadetships, appointments understood to be reserved expressly for orphan children of deceased officers, are so frequently awarded to boys whose fathers are not only alive, but in wealthy circumstances, while poor widows with large families, but without interest, are informed that their applications have been unsuccessful? A case has just happened where an only son got a Queen's India Cadetship, though his father was alive and well, and in receipt of a pension of over £1000 a year." *Truth* should have known that appointments very often go by favour, and the case reported by him only justifies the saying.

"A CANADIAN female has been arrested at Marseilles, charged with stealing a number of articles from a Socialist lady, with whom she had lodged for several weeks. The quarrel between the two ladies, and the anxiety of the Frenchwoman to recover a missing poisoned dagger led to a search of the Canadian's lodgings. The dagger was not found, but some articles were discovered, alleged by the Canadian lady to have been given her during their short-lived friendship. It is rumoured that letters and other documents in English and German were also seized, showing her to be connected with Irish and Russian Revolutionists. There were also plans of public buildings in London, St. Petersburg, and Berne. The prisoner, when interrogated, boasted of these relationships, and said that she had stopped at Marseilles on her way to Barcelona in order to make the acquaintance of some leading Anarchists." Rare woman, indeed!

FRIDAY, 10TH APRIL.

WE HEAR a memorial, signed by 3700 inhabitants of the Midnapore District, has been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal protesting against the splitting up of the district into two parts.

"PRINCE BISMARCK betrayed intense irritation at the publication of the Blue-Book on New Guinea, and accused Earl Granville in the Reichstag of a betrayal of diplomatic confidence. He denied that he had advised England to seize Egypt. The German Press is extremely bitter, accusing Lord Granville of a malevolent intention to create distrust between France and Germany. The publication of the Blue-Book has undoubtedly made France suspicious." But the breach has been patched up by an apologetic letter and an apologetic speech in the House of Lords from our Earl.

LORD DUFFERIN gave the following reply on the receipt of an address from the Allahabad Municipality:—"Gentlemen,—I am very grateful to you for the kind reception you have prepared for me on arriving at Allahabad. My only regret is that pressing business should prevent me from making a longer sojourn. I am glad to have this opportunity of again assuring myself of the practical efficiency and real vitality of those Municipal institutions to which you have referred in your address with so much satisfaction, and I have no doubt that your fine city will not fail to profit by your energy and business capacity. I also desire to acknowledge the spirited terms in which you place your services at the disposal of the Government. (Hear, hear.) England is proud of your loyalty and devotion (applause), and recognises with gratitude the courage and noble valour with which the soldiers of India have so lately stood side by side with their British brethren in arms amidst the sands of Egypt (applause.) I am sure there is not an Englishman in India whose heart has not throbbed with pride and triumph at the proof thus given by our Indian warriors of their devotion to their Sovereign and their fidelity to the British Empire. (Renewed applause.)"

THE FOLLOWING conversation which the Great Napolean had with his English Medical attendant Dr. O'Meara, at St. Helena, regarding the Russian conquest of Constantinople will not be without interest just now. "In the course of a few years Russia will have Constantinople, part of Turkey and all Greece. This I hold to be as certain as if it had already taken place. Almost all the cajoling and flattery, which Alexander practised towards me, was to gain my consent, forseeing that the equilibrium of Europe would be destroyed. In the natural course of things, in a few years, Turkey must fall to Russia. The powers it would injure, and who could oppose it, are England, France, Prussia and Austria. Now, as to Austria, it would be very easy for Russia to engage her assistance, by giving her Servia and other provinces bordering on the Austrian dominions, reaching near to Constantinople. Once mistress of Constantinople, Russia gets all the commerce of the Mediterranean, becomes a great naval Power, and God knows what may happen. Above all other Powers, Russia is the most to be feared, *especially by you the English.* All this I foresaw, and wanted to establish a barrier against those barbarians, by re-establishing the kingdom of Poland, and putting Poniatowaski at the head of it as king; but your imbeciles of Ministers would not consent. A hundred years hence, I shall be praised; and Europe, especially England, will lament I did not succeed. When they see the finest countries in Europe over-run and a prey to those northern barbarians, they will say 'Napolean was right.'" By observing the course of events, we think, the great General took a correct view of Russian aspirations, and his prediction is going to be verified at last.

SATURDAY, 11TH APRIL.

A DEPUTATION headed by Mr. P. L. Roy, Barrister-at-law, on behalf of the inhabitants of the District of Backergunge, waited upon His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal with a memorial praying for the extension of the privilege of the elective Boards' system to the District. His Honor after hearing the deputation, consented to extend the privilege to the Sudder Station of Barisal and the Sub-Division of Perozpore, reserving the question of conferring the *boon* on the entire district for a future time.

NOTWITHSTANDING the strict censorship placed over the letters of the newspaper correspondents with the Boundary Commission, the special correspondent of the *Times of India* has been able to get the following passage through:—"It is a most difficult and delicate task to bestow favors amongst the people, and these people Turkomans. The gifts are often given to the wrong persons, and there is an impression that the Mission have not been completely successful, or avoided wounding susceptibilities in the distribution of their favors. There can be no greater mistake, I am convinced, than supposing that a free expenditure of money in the purchase of articles raises the purchaser in the eyes of the Turkoman or Uzbeg. The members of the Mission have most liberally purchased amongst them. Money easily spent has been easily acquired. It seems to me that the splendour of our camp and our wealth have only excited their imaginations as to the wealth of Hind, as to the wealth which must be where so much has come from."

THE THICCA GHARI drivers of Serampore have struck work because their petition to the Chairman of the Local Municipality for reduction of their license fee was rejected by him. Has this unwholesome wind blown from Madras?

THE TOTAL number of deaths registered during the week was 320 against 296 and 250 in the 2 preceding weeks, and 84 less than the corresponding week last year. Under the head of Cholera there were 101 deaths against 87 and 46 in the 2 preceding weeks. The increase in the deaths from this disease is accounted for, first, by the seasonal rise which invariably takes place about this time of the year, and secondly, by the very large number of pilgrims, who crowded into the city during the week for the purpose of bathing and other ceremonies connected with the eclipse of the moon. There were 11 deaths from small-pox against 8 and 4 in the 2 preceding weeks, the quinquennial mean of the disease being also 11. The general mortality during the week was at the rate of 38·5 per 1,000 per annum.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, April 9.—General Komaroff attacked the Afghans on the 30th March on the banks of the Kushk River.

The Afghans were defeated, with 500 killed, the whole of their artillery and the entire camp also being captured by the Russians.

The Russian loss was 11 killed and 34 wounded.

London, April 9, 1-50 P. M.—A despatch from General Komaroff has been received by the Russian Government stating that he attacked the fortified positions of the Afghans in consequence of the hostile proceedings on the part of the Afghans. General Komaroff states that he completely defeated and dispersed them, and that afterwards his troops returned to their former positions. Some British Officers were eye-witnesses of the engagement, and asked for Russian protection, but the despatch says that the Russian escort sent for that purpose was unable to overtake the Afghan Cavalry who carried the Officers off. The *Times* publishes a telegram from Gulran, dated the 3rd of April, which states that the Russians making as a pretext a change in the position of the Afghan outposts, attacked and drove out the Afghans from Panjdeh. The Afghans fought stubbornly, but their muzzle-loaders were rendered inefficient by wet weather. Two companies defended one position until every man was killed. The Afghans are retreating in an orderly manner to Maruchak and are not being pursued. The Russian loss is believed to be heavy. Some Officers of the British Commission who were in Panjdeh during the attack remained until the retreat of the Afghans, and then returned to Sir Peter Lumsden's camp. In consequence of the alarming nature of the news from Afghanistan, a panic prevails on the Stock Exchange.

London, April 9.—Parliament reassembled this evening after the Easter Recess, and, in reply to a question, Mr. Gladstone said that according to official information, the Russians had provoked the Afghans and had twice attempted to forcibly pass the Afghan pickets. The Chief of the Russian Staff told Captain Yate that he had not been informed of the arrangements telegraphed on March 13, that no further advance was to be made on either side pending the negotiations. Up to March 30th the Afghans had made no further advance. Mr. Gladstone said that Her Majesty's Government considered the attack altogether unprovoked, and that an explanation had been demanded from the Russian Government.

M. de Giers informed Sir Edward Thornton last night that the Czar had expressed a hope that the incident would not prevent negociations from continuing.

London, April 10.—At the close of the sitting in the House of Commons last night, Mr. Gladstone, replying to a question, said that a later despatch had just been received from Sir Peter Lumsden which states that the Russians first threatened to attack Panjdeh. The Afghans gradually moved across the River Kushk and occupied a better position, from whence they were driven by the Russians on the 30th of March.

ENGLAND AND RUSSIA

LONDON, April 11.

Mr. Gladstone, in reply to a question in the House of Commons last night, said that a despatch had been received from the Russian Government, stating that it had called upon General Komaroff to explain his conduct in connection with the attack upon the Afghans.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Panic upon the Stock Exchange has subsided.

INSURRECTION IN OTTAWA, U.S.A.

OTTAWA, April 10.

The rebellion of half-breeds, under the leadership of Rill, has assumed large proportions. The Indians are surrounding the outlying stations, and at Frog Lake, a number of whites have been massacred by the rebels.

THE SOUDAN.

SUAKIM, April 10.

General Graham has issued a proclamation, calling upon the rebels to submit, and to furnish provisions and cattle against payment, or otherwise take the consequences of their refusal.

News has been received from Kassala, under date the 20th March, stating that the garrison there still holds out.

ARREST OF AYUB KHAN.

TEHERAN, April 11.

Ayub Khan was arrested this morning and removed to the citadel here, in consequence of a plot having been discovered to effect his escape.

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THE CRISIS IN CENTRAL ASIA.

BOMBAY, APRIL 11.

A telegram from London, dated Thursday, says that the Panjdeh affair has created great excitement throughout England. In London the feeling of indignation is intense. People await with much anxiety the English officer's version of the affair. No one believes the Russian report that they appealed to the Russian Commander for protection for themselves.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* to-day publishes on the authority of M. Lessar a specious explanation of the massacre of the Afghans by General Komaroff's troops. M. Lessar explains that the attack on Panjdeh was made out of revenge for an attack which the Afghans are alleged to have made early in March on a Russian picket in the Zulfikar Pass. It is alleged that in consequence of that attack the Russian picket was compelled to withdraw into Persian territory.

In St. Petersburg there is a very warlike feeling among certain classes of the people. The St Petersburg press suggests the formation of a fleet of privateers to attack British commerce, and advocates the renunciation of the Declaration of Paris.

The intelligence of the outbreak of hostilities has created a panic on the London Stock Exchange and on the European Bourses, without parallel since the Franco-German war. There was a decline of 2 per cent in the price of English Consols, a fall in Russian Securities of 10 per cent. and the tendency is still decidedly downwards.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1885.

THE INCIDENCE OF MUNICIPAL TAXATION IN CALCUTTA.

THE Government Resolution on the last Administration Report of the Calcutta Corporation is a colourless document of the smallest possible interest, and calls for no remark from us. Written, apparently, by one of the junior officers of the Secretariat, it keeps clear of all debatable matter, and, to make up the full tale of bricks required, serves out a *rechauffe* of the figures of the Corporation's report with scarce even a soupcon of condiment. It has evidently derived very little from the pen of the honorable gentleman whose name it bears, unless we assume this to be an instance of the calm which follows a storm. And it is well that it should be so. After the interminable and acrimonious war of words with which the public was nauseated during the past year on account of the notorious Section 28 business, a relief was necessary, and the Government knows well enough the advantage of occasionally unstringing the bow. The only part of the Resolution which is likely to interest our readers is the first para. in which a comparison is made of the incidence of municipal taxation in the three capitals of the empire, viz., Bombay, Madras and Calcutta. It runs thus: "The area of Calcutta is 3,754 acres, while Bombay and Madras cover areas of 14,246 and 17,165 acres respectively, and the populations of the three cities, according to the census of 1881, are 429,871, 773,196 and 405,848 respectively. Yet the assessed annual value of house-property and land in Calcutta is 133 lakhs of rupees, while that of Bombay is only 125 lakhs, and that of Madras is so low as 35 lakhs. The gross municipal income of each of the three capitals is in round numbers 30 lakhs, 35 lakhs, and 8 lakhs, and it is clear, therefore, that in proportion to its wealth, the municipal taxation is lighter in Calcutta than in either Madras or Bombay, the ratios being 22·5 per cent., 23 per cent., and 28 per cent. respectively. This comparison is perhaps not quite fair, for the reason that, while the municipalities of Bombay and Madras include the entire metropolitan areas of the Western and Southern Presidencies, the municipal limits of Calcutta exclude certain extensive and important tracts which really form a part of the capital of Bengal. The Suburbs and, in a less degree, Howrah cannot properly be left out of account when the extent, wealth, population and revenue of Calcutta are compared with those of the other Presidency towns. These tracts are comparatively remote from the heart of the business quarter of the town, their population is less dense, their area is more scattered, and their assessed value is proportionately low. If the area, population, and income of the Suburban Municipality be added to those of Calcutta, the differences as compared with Bombay dwindle away to very small proportions. The area of greater Calcutta is seen to be 28 square miles against the 22 square miles of Bombay; its population is 681,310 against 773,196, and its annual revenue from all sources lightly exceeds the 35 lakhs raised in Bombay." Bearing in mind the fact that the most serious charge brought against the Corporation by Government during the past year and for some time previously was that the native corporators neglected the sanitation and conservancy of the town, with a view to keep down taxation, it is a great thing to have an admission from the accuser that the taxation in Calcutta is heavier than in the other capital towns. This admission, though apparently not so intended, entirely exonerates the native corporators from the serious charge which had been brought against them. Nor was this charge confined to Calcutta only. The whole scheme of local taxation in Bengal has been regulated on the assumption that the natives would be wanting in public spirit, and would evade taxing themselves for public purposes, unless compelled by Government through specific legal measures. Many a time did hon'ble members from their places in the Bengal Legislative Council openly denounce the people on that account. The provisions of certain obnoxious sections of the Local Self-Government Bill were lately justified by the hon'ble member in charge of it, solely on that ground, and it is not a little remarkable to note that the same gentleman, in his executive capacity, admits that at least one section of the natives, viz., those of Calcutta and its suburbs, have, without any compulsion, taxed themselves more heavily than any in any other part of the empire. This is the more remarkable as the inference has been arrived at, in spite of the grudging spirit in which the comparison has been made, and the studious care with which many important factors which would have told with great force in favor of the much-abused natives, have been left unnoticed. Had these factors been duly noticed, the result would have been greatly more favorable. To cite a few of them. Confining our attention to Bombay only, the situation and circumstances of Madras not being such as to admit of comparison, and its municipal revenue being insignificant, we find, that Bombay derives a gift from Government of nearly two lakhs of Rupees in the form of Liquor Licenses, the proceeds of which in Calcutta go to the provincial exchequer. In Calcutta the said proceeds amounted to Rs. 2,00,795 in 1883-84, and, had this sum been surrendered to the town, taxation under the other heads would have been considerably reduced; but this has not been done. To put it in the plainest words: the Government annually presents a large sum to the people of Bombay as a free gift for municipal purposes, and the Bengal Government reckons it as a part of municipal taxation. If we omit that sum from the Bombay revenue the rate of Calcutta taxation would be proportionately raised. To put the case in other words: the people in Bombay pay only the liquor license fees, whereas those of Calcutta pay it as well as a sum equivalent to it to make up municipal revenue, *i. e.* they are doubly taxed. We come next to a sum of 1,50,000 Rs. under the head of Tobacco Duty Licenses for which there is no counterpart in Calcutta. We have then in Bombay "Drawing Toddy fees," "Slaughter fees," and "Contributions from Insurance Companies," which are likewise unrepresented in Calcutta. And lastly, there is a heavy item,—indeed the heaviest—which comes under the head of "Town Duties." It represents an income of between 7 to 9 lakhs of rupees per year, or the yield of a 6 per cent. house rate in Calcutta. It might at first sight appear that the Town Duty is only another form of taxation, and the Bombay people pay under that head what the Calcutta people pay under the name of a House rate. Such is, however, not the case. A duty on the staff of life affects every living soul in the area concerned, whereas a house rate touches only the owners of houses, and they represent only a small portion of the total. Thus, in Bombay the Town Duty is paid, directly or indirectly, by the whole population, numbering 7,73,196, and a part of it comes from the general trade of the country, for drawback is allowed only on large transactions within a short fixed period, and small transactions, and transactions beyond the fixed period, though they are *bona fide* made for places outside the town limits, are forced to contribute a Town duty; whereas the House Tax is paid by only about 45,000 persons. In Calcutta there is no octroi, and the House Rate is paid by a total of about 39,000 out of a population of 4,29,871 persons, excluding the Suburbs and Howrah. The House Rate and the Octroi in Bombay yield a total of about 12 lakhs, giving an average of 1 6-11ths per head, whereas in Calcutta the House rate alone yields Rs. 9,67,000, or an average of Rs. 2¼ for the entire population; *i. e.*, Calcutta people pay nearly twice as much as those of Bombay do. The ratio for the 39,000 owners is the excessive sum of Rs. 24 4-5ths per head. This shows that the people of Calcutta are taxed head for head, much more than in Bombay, and that the tax is drawn from a small number of persons, and not from the entire number of the population, and that makes the incidence of the tax most cruelly oppressive. It would be easy to work out the other heads in this way—but we do not think the labor worth undergoing. It might be said that a house tax drawn from a few owners must, in the long run, fall on all who live in houses. Such is, however, not the case, and it would imply the grossest ignorance of the first principles of political economy to suppose that such a thing is possible. That portion of the octroi which falls as a transit duty on the general trade is a clear gain from other than the urban population. That portion which is drawn from the floating population comes likewise from other than dwellers in tenanted houses. And that portion, which is drawn from the houseless poor, is likewise not subject to any influence of rent. In fact no raising of rent can affect these classes, and the money which is contributed by them to the octroi, if drawn from house-owners, must, in the nature of things, come from the said owners, and not from the general population. Even in the case of tenants, no rent can be so adjusted as to make the burden of the tax always pass on from the owner to the occupier. Rent is regulated by conditions which are governed more by other considerations than municipal taxation, and long leases stand seriously in the way of enhancement of rent. No one is more fully aware of this than His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, and hence it is that he fought so stoutly to raise the period of enhancement from 1 to 15 years in the Bengal Tenancy Act, and hence, too, it is that he is fighting so hard to transfer the burden of the Police tax from the occupier (mostly his own countrymen) to the owner, (mostly natives) in Calcutta. To take another view of the case. The 7,73,196 persons of Bombay contribute a total municipal revenue in round numbers of Rs. 35,00,000. Deducting thereform Rs. 1,80,000 for the Excise Licenses, Rs. 15,300 for Tobacco Duty License, Rs. 7,50,000 for the Octroi, and Rs. 1,00,000, for sundries, or a total of Rs. 11,83,000, we have left a balance of Rs. 23,17,000 or an average of an intangible fraction under of Rs. 3 per head. In Calcutta, we have a total of Rs. 27,10,641, from a population of 429,871 persons, or an average of Rs. 6 2-7ths per head, or more than twice the amount contributed by the former. If we forego the deductions, still Rs. 35,00,000 contributed by 773,196 persons give an average of Rs. 4½ per head or about 29 per cent. under that of Calcutta. With these facts before us we cannot but pronounce that even without reckoning the Suburbs and Howrah, Calcutta is the most heavily and oppressively taxed town in the whole of the British Indian Empire, and that those, who denounce the native corporators as neglecting sanitary and conservancy works for the purpose of saving their own pockets, are either ignorant of the nature of the case, or deliberately guilty of committing a gross breach of one of the Ten Commandments of the Christian Code of morals.

THE NATIVE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

It had been reserved for our brethern of Modern Bæotia, the inhabitants of Madras, which we, in the plenitude of our wisdom and boasted civilisation, public spirit and enlightenment, are sometimes pleased to designate as the Benighted Presidency, to lead the van in a movement, which bids fair to be for sometime to come, one of great political significance. The admission of four Hindoos of respectable birth into the Madras Artillery Volunteer Corps brings the whole question of native volunteering in India within a measurable distance of practical solution, Colonel Ross Church's frivolous objections to the contrary notwithstanding. Although it is not yet known what the decision of the Government will be with regard to the reference made to it about the objection of Col. Church, it is pretty clear that the result on the whole is likely to prove satisfactory. We learn it on the authority of our contemporary the *Englishman*, that some one at Madras interviewed Major Spring-Branson with reference to these objections. The Colonel's objections were, it appears, first, that there was a Government order against the admission of natives; second, that the other members of the corps would object to their admission; and third, that the natives themselves would object to wear the necessary uniform. To these objections Major Branson is said to have replied that he was not aware that there was any Government order against the admission of natives, but that the other members of the corps certainly were not opposed to their enrolment; and lastly so far from the native gentlemen objecting to wear the uniform, they had already been measured for it, and had tried it on. This, it seems to us, disposes of all the objections as far as the Major was concerned. We had remarked on a previous occasion, and we repeat it now, that it is not at all likely that an experienced officer of Major Spring-Branson's standing had not made himself beforehand acquainted with the views of the Government about so important a matter. As our contemporary remarks, to most persons it would appear that the fact of there being a Government order against the enrolment of natives as volunteers, would, for the present at least, and so long as the cancellation of this unjust Government order could not be obtained, render their admission to the Madras Artillery volunteers invalid. But the real fact, according to our contemporary, is, that the Government order goes only so far as to forbid the enrolment of separate native volunteer Regiments, but does not forbid their enlistment in established Volunteer Corps, provided the other members do not object. Major Spring-Branson is reported to have said, that in this particular case the other members of the corps, as a matter of fact, do not object and he is evidently not prepared to attach any importance to the anonymous correspondence which is said to have threatened resignation on the part of the other members of the corps, if natives were admitted. As Major Branson remarked, the members of the corps ought to welcome the native gentlemen with open arms, and have no right to grumble, since they were well aware that they were liable to have and in fact would have, natives for comrades. That objections are not usually taken in other parts of the country is clear from the fact that there have been Parsee members for sometime already enrolled in both the Beluchistan and Berar Volunteers. As no serious and united attempts had before been made in Bengal, we are not in a position to say as to what view our European fellow citizens, as members of the local volunteer corps, would be pleased to take, about our claims for enrolment. But we are inclined to infer—judging at least from the tone of the leading Anglo-Indian journal, the *Englishman*, which seems to take a calm and sensible view of the matter—that the attitude of the European community cannot be altogether hostile.

But supposing that the members of the established corps were in a body opposed to the admission of natives to their ranks, would it be proper and right for the Government and the officers of the corps to foster and cherish these senseless prejudices, by holding out direct and indirect encouragement, in that behalf? It would speak little in favour of the strong-mindedness of our rulers if they are to go on consulting the little likings and dislikings of our European fellow citizens, when the recognition of a most important principle is at stake. It is on the other hand the duty of the Government and of the officers of the corps, to try to overcome these prejudices as Major Branson has been most praiseworthily doing at Madras. And if unfortunately the prejudices prove too strong to be overcome, efforts should be directed towards the obtaining of the cancellation of the Government order prohibiting the formation of independent native volunteer corps. Our worst enemies dare not impeach our loyalty and devotion to the Queen-Empress and there can be nothing against the formation of independent companies or corps, should a sufficient number of volunteers be forthcoming. And on this subject it is very gratifying to notice that the efforts of the Madrasi in this direction are being strongly backed by the Bengali. An influentially and numerously signed petition of the native residents of Calcutta and the neighbourhood, has been forwarded to the Government of Bengal for transmission in due course to His Excellency the Viceroy. A telegram and a copy of the memorial together with a classified list of the petitioners has been sent on to the Supreme Government direct. Upwards of four hundred of native gentlemen of respectability, representing all classes of the community, and including zamindars, barristers, doctors, attorneys, vakeels, pleaders, merchants, bankers, tradesmen, clerks, graduates, under-graduates, teachers, Munsifs and Government officers, and professors have in this memorial expressed their desire to testify their sense of duty to their country and their devout loyalty to the Queen-Empress in the present crisis, and beg permission to be allowed to enlist themselves as volunteers. Great and inestimable as are the blessings of the British Rule, the petitioners feel, that the time has come, when it is not for them merely to enjoy the benefits but also to share the toils of the citizen, when as a small return for the protection, safety and comfort, which their Government has secured to them, they should endeavour, so far as lies in their power, to help the Government in organising the defence of the empire. The petitioners urge that as citizens it is their duty, as it is their privilege, even independently of the crisis, which has unhappily arisen, to help in the defence of the Empire, and they are happy to observe that this claim has met with some measure of recognition in other parts of the country. Speaking of the removal of the disability of native Christians regarding enlistment as volunteers the petition says:

> While rejoicing that an important section of the native community have thus been relieved of an unnecessary disqualification, Your Petitioners beg leave to observe that the educated community, from which they come, yield to no section of Her Majesty's subjects in their keen and intelligent appreciation of the benefits of British Rule and of their unflinching and devoted loyalty to the Crown. Nor would it be in conformity with the high principles of British Rule to continue a disability as regards the most numerous class of Her Majesty's subjects, based upon considerations of religion. And they venture respectfully to submit to Your Excellency that a rejection of their humble prayer would cast an unmerited slur upon their loyalty, would be inconsistent with those professions of confidence in the people which have been made so often and with such absolute justice, and would possibly prove an obstacle in the way of the growth of that active spirit of loyalty and zealous pride in the maintenance of the glory and the integrity of the British Empire, which after all constitute the best safeguard of imperial rule.

The petition concludes by pointing out that some of the petitioners served for years in England as volunteers, and that Natives of India are received with open arms into volunteer regiments in that country. Our information is that some of these gentlemen not only served as volunteers in England, but actually obtained medals and certificates for superior efficiency as marks-men. Small as the number of these gentlemen may be, the fact clearly proves that by proper training and drill we stand as good chances of turning out efficient and serviceable Volunteers as our European, Anglo-Indian and Eurasian friends. The petition speaks for itself, and we can only fervently hope that the Government will not hesitate to accede to so just and loyal a request It is hardly necessary for us to remark that the four hundred and odd gentlemen whose signatures have already been forwarded do not represent all who are ready to enlist, but more are coming to the fore daily, and their signatures will also be forwarded in due course. The petitioners have the sympathy and good wishes of not only the whole of the native community, but, we are happy to add, of a large number of eminent European officials and non-officials, which makes us all the more hopeful of success.

It now remains to see what steps the Government chooses to take in the matter. We need hardly say that the decision of the Government will be watched throughout the country with the greatest interest and anxiety. We can only hope that the Government will be equal to the occasion. We have much too faith in Lord Dufferin's statesmanship and large-heartedness to bring ourselves to believe, that he will commit the fatal blunder of rejecting so loyal a prayer.

THE EMPLOYMENT OF INDIAN TROOPS IN THE SOUDAN.

The formal resolution sanctioning the employment of Indian troops in the Soudan was laid before the House of Commons by Mr. J. K. Cross, on the 9th ultimo. As is always the case when Indian questions are brought forward before Parliament, the attendance in the House was small, and the question did not excite much interest. Mr. Cross asked the consent of Parliament to the despatch of a certain number of Her Majesty's Native Indian troops for such time as may be required, still keeping them on the Indian establishments. In support of his resolution he quoted the 55th section of the Act for the Better Government of India, 1858, which provides that Indian forces cannot be employed beyond the frontiers, except for preventing or repelling actual invasion of Her Majesty's Indian possessions, without the permission of Parliament. Mr. Cross cited many instances in which Indian troops have been employed beyond the frontiers; but he pointed out that in these cases the apportionment of charge between India and England has not been made according to any definite rule. In the first China war all the ordinary charges were borne by India and all the extraordinary expenses by England. But in the second China war no burden was thrown upon the Indian revenues. In the Persian war all the ordinary charges were paid by India, while the extraordinary charges were borne half by India and half by England. In the Abyssinian war the precedent of the first China war was followed; and in the Perak expedition all the ordinary charges were paid by the Colonial Government and the extraordinary charges by England. In the Malta expedition the whole expenses were placed upon England, while in the last Egyptian expedition India bore not only the ordinary, but also 60 per cent. of the extraordinary, charges. Mr. Cross gave the House some idea of the proportion which ordinary expenses bore to extraordinary in the expeditions which had been undertaken. The question he asked the House to consider was, whether the precedent of 1878 or 1882 should be followed on the present occasion. He admitted that the circumstances of the present case were not similar to those of 1882, when there was reason to apprehend the closing of the Suez Canal, the direct route to India; and the Cabinet decided that the maintenance of the water way was an Indian interest. The Australian Colonies, we may mention here, were equally interested in the maintenance of this direct route. They were not, however, called upon to bear any part of the expenses. But let that pass. Mr. Cross also thought that the precedence of the Malta expedition ought not to be followed on the present occasion, as the cases are not parallel. In 1878 the whole charge, ordinary and extraordinary, was borne by England, because the

Indian troops " were considered to be acting in English interests in Europe." He then proceeded :—" The present expedition does not stand on the same footing as either of those I have spoken. It may be said to arise out of our position in Egypt, but it is certainly not directly connected with the financial interests of India in the same manner as the expedition of 1882. The expedition arises to some extent out of the generous and philanthropic impulses of the people of this country, who could not bear to contemplate the possibility of what might happen to the Soudan garrison, and who determined to attempt their relief by military measures. On the one hand, then, we cannot say that India has anything like the same financial interest in this expedition as she had in the Egyptian expedition of 1882, for can we say that she has so little interest involved as she had in 1878; for anything which occurs to disturb the equilibrium of the Mahomedan world in Eastern Africa or Western Asia, or which affects the success of our arms in countries not far from India must be of more direct interest to India than events occurring on the Bosphorus or in the Balkan peninsula . . . I may put the question plainly to any thinking common sense man, and ask—will the knowledge that a barbarian military leader has baffled the efforts of Her Majesty's forces be an element of good or evil in India, and is it or is it not an Indian interest? Why, Sir, so great an Indian interest is it considered by some of the native princes that Hyderabad, and Bhopal, Patiala and Jhind have offered contingents to help the forces of Her Majesty's Government in the prosecution of this work. . . . If the native princes think it an Indian interest, how can he escape a similar conclusion ?"

It is by arguments like these that Mr. Cross supported his proposal to charge upon the revenues of India the ordinary expenses of the Native troops which have been despatched to the Soudan. But these arguments do not bear a moment's examination. They are utterly fallacious. When the Soudan expedition by Mr. Cross's own admission, owes its origin to the generous philanthropic impulses of the people of England, it is only fair that they should pay for it. It is always an easy thing to be generous and philanthrophic at another's expense : sweet is the dance when another pays. If a man is inclined to show generosity or philanthropy, let him do so at his own expense, and not throw the burden upon dumb and unrepresented people. The people of England have determined to attempt the relief of the Soudan garrison by military measures. Whether that determination is right or wrong we have nothing to do with it; but why should the cost of the generous and philanthropic undertaking be charged upon the revenues of India ? In the second place, we wonder how could a sensible man like Mr. Cross argue that any thing which affects the success of British arms must be considered an Indian interest. This is really a most extraordinary piece of reasoning. If the argument is to be carried to its logical conclusion, any expedition in any part of the world in which the efforts of Her Majesty's forces are baffled must be regarded as an Indian interest. Under this view the cost of the military operations in Zululand where the British arms had sustained crushing and humiliating defeat should have been thrown upon the revenues of India. The fact of the Mahdi being a Mahomedan makes no difference in the moral aspect of the case. The Indian Mussulmans look upon him as an impostor, and do not attach any importance to the successes he has achieved in the wilds of the Soudan. Mr. Cross is quite mistaken in thinking that the Native princes consider this an Indian interest. Their devoted loyalty and attachment to the British Crown have induced them to offer contingents to help Her Majesty's forces in the Soudan. If they knew that such a construction would be put upon their offers, they would surely have paused before making them. The present case is parallel to the despatch of an Indian contingent to Malta. In 1878 the Indian troops, to use Mr. Cross's language " were considered to be acting in English interests in Europe." In 1885 they must be regarded as acting in British interests in Africa. Following the precedent of 1878, the whole charge, both ordinary and extraordinary, should be borne by England.

The discussion which followed Mr. Cross's speech was a very tame affair. Mr. Stanhope approved of the terms of the resolution as being reasonable, but he declined to examine the question in the light of precedent. Sir George Campbell strongly objected to the resolution, and protested against Indian troops being used in an aggressive war. He pointed out the Mahomedans of India had no sympathy with the Mahdi, and maintained that the terms in which England and India gave each other mutual support were not equal. England did not scruple to take pay for her troops from India at the time of the Mutiny. Mr. Buchanan urged that as theSoudan expedition was of an Imperial character, England ought to pay for the troops. Mr. Fowler took the same view ; while Colonel Nolan fully approved of the vote because the Indian troops would get a training in the field which would be of great use to the Indian Army. Mr. Onslow supported the Government proposal,but Mr. Slagg condemned it. Ultimately a division being taken the resolution was carried by 88 to 23, and the ordinary expense of the Native troops despatched to the Soudan was thrown upon the revenues of India.

THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT ACT.

LATHER is a good thing of its kind, useful to grown-up people, and dear to children as material for blowing soap bubbles. In the hands of the latter, it becomes nicer and nicer to look at the more it is blown into. The greater the tenuity, the more brilliant are the rainbow colours which adorn the bubble. But this extreme tenuity leads to its immediate bursting, and then nothing is left behind, but a slimy stain. Even such is the case with the new scheme of Local Self-Government in Bengal. Its material, like lather, was a good one, and, in proper hands, it would have doubtless proved very useful. But it was so assiduously and so persistently blown into that it went through all its various gradations of change of colour, and has now burst, leaving nothing behind, but a pat of dirt. The original idea of utilizing the services of local communities in local administration was a noble one ; but Sir Charles Trevelyan, who first broached it, did not live in India long enough to do more than take the first step of appointing Honorary Magistrates. Lord Mayo took it up, and would have, doubtless, done something substantial; but his career was cut short by a foul assassin. The credit, therefore, of taking active action in the matter belongs entirely to Lord Ripon. His instincts were good, and he meant to do what he proposed. He was, however, not equal to the task of controlling the antipathy of the officialdom which he had to deal with. Open mutiny he could quell, as he did in the case of Bombay ; but he was no match for the Fabian policy of Bengal. With the cordial co-operation of Sir Alfred Lyall, Sir Charles Aitchison,and Mr. Morris, it took but very little time for him to pass legislative measures for the carrying out of the Scheme in the Upper and the Central provinces. After the first rebuff, Sir James Fergusson felt that he had been betrayed by the narrow advice of his colleagues, and quickly did all that was necessary to mend matters. The greatly-maligned Mr. Grant-Duff was too good a Liberal to need any extraneous stimulus to make him push on a good work ; in a great measure he anticipated in Madras the wishes of Lord Ripon. In Bengal the professions in favor of the project were the most cordial possible ; but the attempt to carry it out was foiled at every step. Every provincial Commissioner, inspired or otherwise, had his own special ideas, and no two could be got to agree to a single plan. One of them thought the first essential for the purpose was to find out a demon, and he traversed the four littoral districts of Bengal in quest of it. We beg his pardon. He did not exactly say a demon ; but he had in his school days read of *demos* in Greece, and looked for it or something like it in Bengal, but in vain. He found cities and towns and villages without number, peopled as thickly as such places were in Greece in the days of Pericles. He found, too, panchayets or village communes and other germs or relics of republican or democratic institutions; but he failed to find the identical *demos*, or demon, or whatever it was that he sought, and, therefore, condemned the whole scheme as impracticable. Others, more cautious and less pronounced in their opinions, entrenched themselves within what we should, in these days of Soudan warfare, call *zaribas*, made of divers kinds of brushwood and the like. Want of efficiency, want of unanimity among the people, the risk of fast young Rajas getting at the head of affairs through their local influence, serious danger to public health, possible depreciation of official prestige, spectre of the loss of Bengal as a part of Her Majesty's dominions, were the various parallels and out-works which they put forth to protect the citadel of Bengal bureaucracy. Nor were the consummate tact and art with which these protective works were executed and defended unworthy of the high intellectual resources of our official hierarchy. They necessitated interminable correspondence, reports, and despatches, and nothing in the world is so adverse to promptitude as red-tape. Thus, while all the other provinces of the empire got what was proposed for them, Bengal was engaged in solving the problem how not to do it, while professing the utmost earnestness for doing it. However, procrastination, even like the longest road, must at one time or another come to an end, and the Bill for Local Self-Government in Bengal has at last been passed, and it is a relief to us to know that that unpleasant subject will now cease to engage our attention. As to the merits of the Scheme, we have written often and fully, and nothing has since transpired to call for any more remarks about it. The problem was, as we have above said, how not to do it, and it has been solved to the entire satisfaction of the authorities. The dignity and power of local authorities have been saved ; absolute autocracy in local matters has been made to continue, as heretofore, to be the order of the day ; the people remain where they were, being allowed no more voice in their local affairs than what they have hitherto had ; and at the same time the Government has obtained, or at least it thinks it has got, all the credit of conferring on the people the boon of self-government. Nor are we surprised at this consummation. From the day we came to know that the scheme would not be finally settled during the administration of Lord Ripon, we were fully prepared for it. Doubtless the people had formed great hopes, and they have been proportionately disappointed ; and they will have the unavoidable pain of seeing their brethern in the other provinces of the empire blessed while they remain discredited, degraded, and distrusted ; but they should look for their help to the garden in which, according to the poet,

> ——— " Grow
> A wreath for each toil and a balm for every woe "

For the present, however, we cannot allow the opportunity to pass without noticing the speech with which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor brought the last debate on the Bill to a close. After dwelling on the reasons which have caused delay, and the reply to which we have referred above, His Honor went on to say :

> They were now about to pass a more liberal measure, and though he knew there were some people who believed that their action in this direction was premature, yet for himself, he thought, that the time had come, having regard to the progress made by the people in education, and in the experience of Municipal and other affairs, that the Government should secure their co-operation in some respects in the internal administration of the country. If he differed from those who thought that theBill did not go far enough, he had this much to say for himself, that it was an entirely new measure, and if its success was desired, it could only be achieved by making it tentative. As the Council were aware, the measure would be applied to sixteen districts where education had already done its work, and where there was reason to suppose the people would do their work intelligently and with a due sense of their responsibility. He had not thought it advisable to go further. The Bill proceeded on a sound and safe basis, and it remained for the people themselves to show whether the powers which were about to be placed in their hands should be extended or not. There were provisions of control in the Bill,—

provisions, which, in a tentative measure, were essentially necessary,—which he hoped would never require to be exercised; but he would also ask them to remember that a wider and more general application of the measure depended entirely upon the use they made of the powers which were to be vested in them, and the manner in which they discharged their responsibilities.

We cannot congratulate His Honor on the frankness of these remarks. His Honor was not called upon to dwell on the opinions of those of his subordinates who thought the measure premature, or of those persons who thought that the Bill did not go far enough. The resolutions of the Government of India had long before placed the question beyond such criticism. The only justification he was called upon to produce was, why is it that, while the Government of India had bestowed very liberal measures on other parts of the empire, he should have thought fit to deny them to the people placed under him? This question is not at all met by saying that the Bill was "an entirely new measure, and if its success was desired it could only be achieved by making it tentative." The Bill may be new to Bengal; but it is not new to India. It comes two years after similar measures were passed for other parts of the country. The accident of novelty, therefore, did not apply, and the desire for "success" was certainly not peculiar to Bengal. That desire was even stronger in the Legislature of India of which His Honor is a member, but neither did that Legislature, nor did His Honor, think that desire incompatible with the very liberal measures that have been adopted in regard to the North West, the Punjab and the Central Provinces. What was wanted was for His Honor to show that, owing to some peculiar intellectual, moral, ethnic, or social defects, the people of Bengal were not fit to receive the same liberal treatment which their brethren had obtained in other parts of the empire, and this he has not attempted to do; and, if he had attempted it, he would have for certain failed to demonstrate. Under the circumstances the inference is inevitable that His Honor has been less liberal to his people than his brothers in other parts of the empire. We demur, too, to accept the validity of the reasons assigned for "the provisions of control" which His Honor has thought fit to embody in the Bill. We readily admit, and we are bound to admit, that *some* provisions of control are essentially necessary in a "tentative measure." This is but a trite axiom to repeat. It amounts to nothing more than saying that caution and prudent forethought are good things; but the value of the caution and prudent forethought depends entirely on the extent to which they are carried, for they soon degenerate into something which is indicated by a very harsh name, which we do not care to repeat. We shall, however, illustrate it by an eloquent remark which we quote from the writings of the illustrious namesake of the honorable gentleman who had charge of the Bill. It runs thus: "Many politicians of our time are in the habit of laying down as a self-evident proposition, that no people ought to be free till they are fit to use their freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool in the old story who resolved not to go into water till he had learnt to swim. If men are to wait for liberty till they become wise and good in slavery, they may indeed wait for ever." As matters now stand under the Bill, what the people of Bengal desire to know is, if the particular provisions, which His Honor has thought fit to devise, are really "essentially necessary," how is it that he did not think them so in the Local Self-Government Bills, which the Legislative Council of India passed for the North-West, the Punjab, and the Central Provinces? He was a member of that Council and he should not have over-looked so essential a requirement. If they are not essential, he has fettered the hands of the people of Bengal to an unnecessary and illiberal extent. The people sought power, and they have got manacles; they wanted to act for themselves, and have been allowed the liberty to act the role of dummies; they wanted bread, and they have got stone. The scheme was proposed for the whole native community, and more than two-thirds of that community have been cast overboard, and less one-third of them has been treated with a "satire on self-government." Total inaction would have been far better than this "satire." We feel bound, too, to enter our caveat against His Honor's attempt to cast the onus of the future of the Bill on the shoulders of the people. In the sixteen out of the 49 districts of Bengal in which the Bill is to be put into currency, the people will be in no better condition than in the other parts of the province. The change of name from District Cess Committee to District Board will effect no change of power, and the process of election will be no other than a mere juggling or hocus pocus got up solely because our rulers could not openly say 'nay' in reply to the orders of Lord Ripon. The elected members in the selected districts will be always in the minority, and they can do nothing to influence the action of the law, either for good or for evil. The majority will carry the day, and the majority will consist of Government officers and Government nominees, and success or failure will depend entirely upon their action as in the present Road Cess Committee, and in the future nominated Boards. If, then, there be failure in the "favored" (save the mark) districts, the discredit should rest with the Government, and not with the people who are kept in the minority. Of course it is always pleasant to have a buffer. With such a contrivance, if the scheme should turn out successful the Government may say "it is because we were judicious in placing all effective power in the hands of our officers, therefore, the scheme has turned out successful." And if it should fail, the people are to be accused of incompetency. This is not fair, nor worthy of a high and mighty Government.

THE UNITED PROVINCES IN 1883-84.

MUCH useful work was quietly done in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh during the second year of Sir Alfred Lyall's administration. Some very important questions engaged his attention during the period. Foremost among these stands the question of giving effect to the views of the Supreme Government in the direction of extending and developing local self-Government. The reader will remember that one of the first acts of Sir Alfred Lyall as Lieutenant Governor of the North-Western Provinces, was to consign to the waste-paper basket the series of Resolutions which his predecessor, Sir George Couper, had issued on the subject. The North-West Municipal and Local Boards Bills became law in November, 1, 1883, and the necessary preliminary steps for introducing the acts, and for bringing their provisions into working order, were then taken. As regards the Municipal Act, each Municipality was requested to submit for the consideration of the Government, proposals relating to the elective constitution and organization of the new boards on the elective principle. While these proposals were under consideration, the question of Municipal police was also taken up. It was arranged that, in cases where the relief, given on account of police charges transferred to the Provincial revenues, exceeded the percentage charges for intra-municipal schools and dispensaries, the excess should be remitted, and that where the percentage charges exceeded the police relief, the Municipalities concerned should only be held liable to the extent of the lesser sum. The net result of the new arrangements was a relief to municipal revenues of about half a lakh of rupees per annum. This sum distributed over 100 Municipalities in the United Provinces was doubtless very small, and did not give any appreciable relief; but a great principle was carried out, which was in itself no unimportant gain. As regards the local boards, certain backward districts and portions of districts were wholly exempted from the operation of the Act, and some tracts were only excepted from its provisions regarding election. Draft rules providing for the constitution and organisation of local and district boards were prepared, and opinions and suggestions thereon invited. But the arrangements under the Local Self-government Acts were not in full working order until the end of 1884-85.

Several questions relating to revenue administration came up for consideration during the period under report. The year being one of more than usual prosperity, the land revenue demand was easily collected. Excluding nominal arrears, the real balance was only ·20 per cent. of the demand. During the cold weather of 1883-84 the Revenue authorities were engaged in an examination of the very important questions raised by the Government of India relating to the future revision of land revenue assessments in the North-Western Provinces. We are told that a large amount of information was collected, and the whole matter still remained under consideration at the close of the year. The scheme propounded by the Government of India for adding greater elasticity to the revenue system was accepted by the Government of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. It will be recollected that for insecure areas the Supreme Government proposed to adopt a graduated scale of suspension of revenue and rent to fit in with a graduated scale of loss of crops. An inquiry was instituted in every district of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh to ascertain how far it was possible to put the principles laid down by the Government of India into practice. The Local Government does not seem disposed to accept the scheme of the Supreme Government, on the ground that it would involve an alteration of the main principles of the existing system of land revenue settlements, and practical administrative difficulties. In order to carry out the principles laid by the Government of India, it will be necessary to make a careful local investigation into the character of each harvest. Unless this task can be satisfactorily performed, we have no hope the scheme will be properly worked. But the Government shows no disposition to remodel the subordinate revenue staff upon which the investigation will devolve. A scheme for simplifying the procedure of revenue courts and facilitating the realisation of rent by a system of registration of admitted claims on account of arrears of rents formed the subject of a special inquiry, but a report adverse to the scheme was submitted to the Government of India. Measures for the formation of fuel and fodder preserves throughout the United Provinces formed the subject of further investigation and experiment. The inquiry was directed to the utilisation of the reserved Government forests and the establishment of special reserves in plains, and waste or broken ground in the Doab and elsewhere. A sum of Rs. 10,000 was allotted for the purchase of Usar land, in order to test the practicability of this plan by an experiment on a small scale. We shall watch the result of the experiment with great interest. The Wards Institute at Benares was closed in January 1883, but we are glad to note that measures have since been sanctioned for opening a new Institution at Agra. Considerable progress was made during the past year in the disposal of claims under the Jhansi Encumbered Estates Act. It is expected that the work of the Special Judge will be completed by July next. This officer, as the reader knows, is invested with special powers under the Act to reduce usurious or inequitable claims. Some idea of the way in which the Judge is exercising his powers will be formed when we say that he decreed Rs. 49 where a Civil Court would have awarded Rs. 97. He has struck off as usurious or unjust Rs. 1,68,158 out of a total demand of Rs. 5,24,348. Comments on these figures would be superfluous.

The scheme for constructing state-wells for irrigation purposes in the North-Western Provinces has, as we predicted, turned out a failure. The result of the experimental wells constructed in the Cawnpore and Moradabad districts on a sufficiently extensive scale to test the practicability of such a measure of protection against drought being introduced in tracts where canal irrigation was not possible, has clearly shown that well construction by the state could not be carried further with any certain prospect of advantage and profit. It was very properly decided to leave the extension of well irrigation to private enterprise, assisted by takavi advances. The question of improving forest administration, we are glad to observe, also occupied Sir Alfred Lyall's attention during the year under report. He recognises the fact that a most important essential for effecting this object is the securing of a better and more intelligent class of men for subordinate posts in the Forest Department. In two of the cir-

cles arrangements have already been made to place the subordinate staff in a better position than they now occupy. The Forest School at Dehra Doon, which has been now made an imperial institution, may be expected in a few years to provide a number of well-qualified candidates for posts in in the subordinate staff. In other departments, too, Sir Alfred Lyall is insisting on a definite educational qualification for Government service. But the present standard is too low, and it must be raised, if Sir Alfred desires to improve the tone and efficiency of the subordinate services.

THE SITUATION.

THE clouds are thickening. What was supposed to be a question of mere diplomatic negociation has now assumed the character of one of widespreading war. It is time, therefore, to place before our readers a succinct account of the bearings of the different interests involved in the question. The first and foremost interest is, of course, that of the Amir of Afghanistan. It is the Amir who will suffer most by the threatened war, and his position is the most critical possible. By early associations his leanings would be in favour of Russia. But Russia he cannot trust. Should his north-western neighbour insist upon taking Herat, he cannot prevent his so doing. It is possible that an alliance with Russia, after the surrender of a good portion of the disputed northern districts, might for the present save Herat. But this will mean a surrender of the English subsidy, and the Amir cannot afford to make it. Moreover, the fate of Shere Ali teaches him that the aid of Russia can not be had when it is most needed. Had Russia helped Shere Ali, Afghanistan would not have been so easily overrun by Lord Lytton. On the other hand, alliance with England, at the present crisis, will necessitate the placing of a British garrison at Herat, and that cannot but prove most repugnant to the feelings of his Afghan subjects. They may, or may not, recall to mind the history of the fortress of Gwalior, but they cannot but resent any attempt at making over to English troops, even for a limited period, the strongest fort they possess. These speculations, however, are no longer of any value. The die is cast. The Amir has accepted British alliance, and when at the Rawal Pindi Durbar he declared—

> I am ready with my army and my people to render any services which may be required of me or of the Afghan nation. As the British Governme,at has declared it will assist me in repelling any foreign enemy, so it is right and proper that Afghanistan should unite in the firmest manner, and stand side by side with the British Government. . . . With this sword I hope to smite any enemy of the British Government—

he said what he meant. As a factor in the question of peace or war, his voice ceases. Notwithstanding the prevailing opinion about the bad political faith of the Afghans—which, by the way, history seems to show is not peculiar to that nation,—we have no reason to doubt that the Amir will be guided entirely by the policy of the British nation.

The next interest involved is that of the British Government. And here we have to deal with two separate entities; the ministry, and the nation. The leaning of Mr. Gladstone's government has always been in favor of peace. It has always tried every legitimate diplomatic resource to preserve peace, and has even at times stooped to an extent to which no Government of the power and resources of England would have submitted. It may be frank, it may be manly, it may be noble, to confess an error, and to make a reparation, but the case must be very strong indeed which would force the foreign minister of France, Germany or Russia, to make a speech similar to what Lord Granville delivered the other day. The studious care with which Mr. Gladstone has, in the House of Commons, lately tried to gloss over the terms of the recent engagements with Russia, and to avoid noticing the discourtesy, if not the positive insult, with which that Power has treated England, clearly proves that his desire for peace is genuine and earnest. The recent deputation of Lord Roseberry to Berlin also affords a significant proof of his sincerity. But Mr. Gladstone's hands are not perfectly free. With a sadly diminished majority, and the coming election next autumn, he cannot afford to ignore the feeling of the nation, and that feeling is decidedly hostile. The British Lion is roused; he feels sorely the insults that have been heaped upon him by the Northern Bear; and it would take much more than what can possibly be said at the present crisis to appease his anger. Mr. Gladstone must carry the nation with him, or, he may rest assured, he shall be put out of Downing Street at the next election. We should very much like to rely on the consummate knowledge, ability and experience of Mr. Gladstone to find out a *modus vivendi* at this crisis without courting war; but we must confess that the prospects are not very cheering. The impelling forces are now more potent than what led to the bombardment of Alexandria. What with insulted honor, and the strenuous efforts of the Conservatives to get into office, we very much fear that Mr. Gladstone will be driven to the necessity of assuming a warlike attitude.

Turning now to the last interest, that of Russia, we have to deal with a very greedy, very powerful, and very slippery Government. The recent operations in the Soudan have convinced it that its opportunity for an aggressive movement has arrived, and that what it did with impunity in setting aside the neutrality of the Black Sea, and converting that Sea into a Russian lake, during the troubles of France, after the Sedan disaster, may now be repeated with perfect safety. The cases are certainly not parallel, and the inference is utterly baseless. England's might has not in the least suffered by her recent troubles, and she is as able now as she ever was to teach a good lesson to the Muscovite; but for all that the impression exists, and it is sure to exercise its baleful influence on the action of the great northern Power. To assail India has been the fixed policy of Russia ever since the days of Peter the Great, and every step she has taken for well nigh a hundred years has tended towards that goal. She has never missed an opportunity, and she will, it is to be feared, not do so now, if she at all be under the impression that this is a fitting opportunity. India may not be, nay it is certainly not, her objective now; but she has other views to cherish. She has longed for Constantinople even more earnestly than for India, and the principal Power which has hitherto obstructed her course has been England, and her obvious plan is so to divert England's attention in India at a time, when she has troubles, likewise, in the Soudan, as to make the aid of England to Turkey inefficient. In other words, she wants to make Herat the fulcrum from which to apply her lever for the overthrow of Turkey. There are other reasons for her action. Her domestic troubles are daily on the increase. Nihilism is spreading far and wide, and has now found a footing in her army. Her utmost efforts to suppress it have served only to give it renewed vitality, and, as she will not listen to any suggestion for extending the liberty of her people, the only resource left her is to rush into a large foreign war, to divert the attention of her people from home. This was the course she adopted in former times, when domestic troubles assailed her, and it is to be very much feared that she wants to try it again in her present condition. Moreover, absolutely autocratic as she is, she is still in the hands of her official bureaucracy. She can hear nothing and do nothing except what is put before her by her great officers of state; and her lieutenants in the distant outlying provinces of her unwieldy empire exercise a potent influence in regulating peace and war. War means unlimited expenditure, highly paid offices, rapid promotion, and every thing that is attractive to military career; and it is natural, therefore, that her lieutenants, who are military officers without an exception, should prefer war to peace; and under these circumstances it is more probable that Russia would rather throw open the door of her temple of Janus than shut it.

There are two considerations, however, which are in favor of peace. The first is her financial difficulty and second, her knowledge of the resources of England. The sinews of war are preponderatingly great in the hands of England, and Russia can never cope with her in that respect. As to men, bearing in mind the fact that during the last Russian War every British soldier was found to be equal to five Muscovites, the deficiency in the number of the British army is not a matter of consequence. It is true that, during the last Russian war, Sir Charles Napier's expedition to the Baltic proved totally abortive, but there is no reason to suppose that an expedition in the present day would not prove most disastrous to the assailed. The Black Sea is also sure to be made the theatre of a gigantic struggle, though on the former occasion naval success there did not much affect the position of Russia. In regard to materials of war, England, again, stands infinitely superior to Russia. These are considerations which no prudent Government can overlook, and we have no doubt they will have their weight in the counsels of the Great Czar. But we cannot venture to say that they will suffice to prevent the outbreak of a war on the present occasion.

Since the above was written news has arrived of a serious act of aggression on the part of Russia against the Afghans at Panjdeh. Rumours of this outbreak were current in India a week ago, but no confirmation was received until Friday last. Under ordinary circumstances, this would have led to a declaration of WAR, but Mr. Gladstone seems still to cherish an idea that the encounter may be explained away, and a peaceful solution of the difficulty may be looked for. The details of the brush are not yet clear. It appears that on March 30 the Russians, making as a pretext a change in the position of the Afghan outposts, attacked and drove out the Afghans from Panjdeh. The engagement took place on the banks of the Murgab, five hundred Afghans were killed, and the whole of their artillery and the entire camp also being captured by the Russians. The Afghans fought most stubbornly and two companies defended one position until every man was killed. They have since effected an orderly retreat to Meruchak and were not pursued. The Russians were commanded by General Alikanoff who has sent a despatch to St. Petersburg stating that he attacked the fortified position of the Afghans in consequence of the hostile proceedings on their part. But according to Sir Peter Lumsden's despatch the Russians first threatened to attack Panjdeh, and the Afghans gradually moved across the river and occupied a better position whence they were driven by the Russians. According to official information the Russians had provoked the Afghans and had twice attempted to forcibly pass the Afghan pickets. Mr. Gladstone said in the House of Commons that Her Majesty's Government considered the attack altogether unprovoked, and that an explanation had been demanded from the Russian Government. M. de Giers has, in the meantime, informed Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister at St. Petersburg, that the Czar had expressed a hope that the incident would not prevent negotiations from continuing.

There is another version of the story of the fight given in the *Standard*, according to which the Russians were defeated, the killed alone numbering five hundred. Some British officers were eye-witnesses of the enagement, and asked for Russian protection, but the Russian General's despatch says that the Russian escort sent for that purpose was unable to overtake the Afghan cavalry which carried the officers off. What occasion there could be for the British officers to "seek Russian protection," it is difficult to understand, unless we are to suppose that the Afghans, infuriated at the passive attitude of their allies, turned round. But there is no scope for fear on that score, because we read that some British officers of the British Commission who were in Panjdeh during the attack remained until the retreat of the Afghans, and then returned to Sir Peter Lumsden's Camp safe. Communication with the Commission, however, has been impeded, and it is believed that the telegraph wire to Meshed has been cut.

The Panjdeh affair has created great excitement in England. In London the feeling of indignation is intense. The English Press has assumed a decidedly bellicose attitude, and insist upon the immediate recall of General Komaroff and the retirement of the Russians from the

disputed territory on pain of war. It is believed that the Cabinet has sent an ultimatum to the Russian Government demanding the reason why General Komaroff was unaware of the agreement which had been come to by the two Governments not to advance. The Government also invites the disavowal of General Komaroff's action and demands that an order should be forthwith given to the Russian troops to return to their former positions. The impression is gaining ground in England that the attack on the Afghans at Panjdeh was a deliberate attempt to provoke war. It is also an opinion in many quarters that Russia is better prepared for war than she was thought to be. It is believed that there are no fewer than twenty thousand Russian troops of all arms in the vicinity of Panjdeh. Seventy thousand Russian troops are also believed to be advancing towards Askabad. In official circles in England war is believed to be certain. Komaroff's audacity has thoroughly roused the British nation, and there is a general agreement as to the necessity for vigorous and decisive action.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal left Calcutta for Darjeeling by special train at 1. 30 P. M. on Tuesday last. A large number of European and native gentlemen assembled on the Railway platform to see His Honor off.

THE RAWAL PINDI pageant is over. After repeated postponements, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the Durbar for the public reception of the Amir by the Viceroy was held on Wednesday last, with great *eclat* and military display. At a review of the Viceroy's escorts and the troops of the native chiefs before the Viceroy and the Duke of Connaught, the Viceroy, after the parade, expressed his admiration of the fine appearance presented by the Native contingents. The general feeling was that they would form valuable auxiliaries in the War. On the 7th instant a grand review of all the troops took place, and the Afghans are said to have been strongly impressed with our military strength. There was a Viceregal banquet on the 7th instant, at which the Amir was present. Though the results of the conference are not known, the demands of the Amir are said not to be extravagant. The news of the engagement at Panjdeh has of course hastened the general break-up of the camp. The Amir returns to Kabul shortly. The three Commanders-in-Chief, Sir Donald Stewart, Sir Henry Hardinge and Sir Frederick Roberts have left, the former for Simla and the two last for Bombay and Madras respectively. It is very curious that with war at the Afghan frontier the Commanders-in-Chief should hasten away from the Punjab, and seek the cool shades of Simla, Utkamund and Mahabalessur.

NO NEWS of any importance has been received from the Soudan. The Mahdi's position may be taken as daily growing worse, since it is reported that wholesale desertions have taken place in the Kordofan army, and deserters have been pursued by the Mahdi who has, however, been defeated by them with heavy loss. Our *zariba* on the road to Tamai has had to be abandoned, and the troops and stores have been brought back to Suakin. The camp will now be concentrated along the railway line which is progressing favourably and will be shortly completed as far as Handoub. A fresh *zariba* has been formed five miles on the road to Handoub. Spies report Tamai to be entirely deserted, and that on the evacuation of the Town by British troops, the rebels burnt it down. The abandonment of the Tamai *zariba* has evidently emboldened the rebels, as about a hundred shots were fired into the head-quarters camp early in the morning of the eighth instant. At Handoub, where a zariba has been formed, a few of the enemy made their appearance, but no fighting took place. An Indian Musulman who was taken prisoner by the rebels on the 20th of the last month has effected his escape, and returned to Suakin. He reports that twelve other camp followers are in the hands of the enemy, and are being ill-treated by them.

A CAIRO telegram to the *Bombay Gazette* says that new developments of an important character are on the cards in connection with the campaign in the Soudan. Although officially contradicted, it is confidently asserted in high diplomatic circles that the expedition up the Nile and the expedition to Berber are both to be withdrawn. The war will be prosecuted by a force composed for the most part of non-British troops. England will not altogether retire from the Soudan, it being part of the new plan of the campaign that they should hold and fortify certain points. Negotiations are now in active progress in regard to this new development of the situation. Some colour has probably been given to this rumour by the announcement that several thousand British troops, the greater part from Egypt, will be sent to India very shortly.

MR. H. J. S. COTTON, the popular Secretary to the Board of Revenue, to whom the inhabitants of Calcutta owe so much for his disinterested and valuable service in connection with the 28 Section Commission leaves Calcutta to-day for England. He carries the best wishes of the native community with him.

THE GOVERNMENT Resolution on the Administration Report of the Opium Department for 1883-84, is now before the public. In the Behar Agency the land under actual cultivation was 419,259, bighas and in the Benares Agency 414,927 bighas. In both the Agencies the yield was exceptionally abundant during the year under notice, the combined produce amounting to 1,26,598 maunds.

THE SYSTEM of rewards to informers now obtaining in the Opium Department is working incalculable mischief. The system has raised up a class of professional informers, who are not only dreaded by smugglers, but by cultivators, as also by people who have no concern whatever with the cultivation or sale of opium. In one district, we hear, the police actually employed a paid staff of informers, and we should like to know how the residents of that district could live comfortably under police surveillance, and the lynx-eye of the informers. No information is given as to the number of prosecutions in the district, but it is not difficult to guess under what terror of police oppression the people could have passed their days. In Hajaribagh, we understand, prosecutions based on informers' statements were most numerous, but we have no information of the actual number of convictions obtained. The number of false charges, we are afraid, must have been abnormally high. "It is a remarkable fact," says His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, "of which no explanation is given that, however great the variations in the number of cases and in the amounts realized as fines and disbursed as rewards, the quantity of contraband opium seized remains practically the same from year to year." This is a frank confession that the system of rewards to informers has utterly failed to suppress illicit traffic, and under such circumstances we would strongly condemn the system of offering large rewards practically to stimulate the adoption of informing as a trade.

THE Administration Report of the Commissioners for making Improvements in the Port of Calcutta for 1883-84 shows under the Revenue account an income of Rs. 29,26,120, and an expenditure, inclusive of contributions to sinking funds, new works, and port dues, of Rs. 24,47,719, leaving a balance of Rs. 4,78,401 at the close of the year. The capital account shows an income of Rs. 22,83,975, and an expenditure of Rs. 20,60,369. The total debt of the Trust stood on 31st March 1884 at Rs. 79,33,787, and the assets amounted at the close of the year to Rs. 1,78,97,544. The assets represent the value of the jetties, wharves, landing-stages, tramways, dock, moorings, vessels, &c. belonging to the Trust, and Rs. 8,03,489 of investments under the heads of Reserves, Insurance, Depreciation and Sinking Funds.

Thirteen casualties happened within the Port to vessels in charge of Harbour Masters, the number being the highest ever reached. Ten fires occurred in the Port, eight of which were on board ships or boats. The most serious fire occurred on board the *Aurora*, which, with its cargo of kerosine-oil, was completely destroyed. The burning of this vessel threatened at one time a very serious danger to the shipping in the Port, but the danger was averted by the promptitude and energy of Mr. Duff Bruce and the officers of his department. Steps have since been taken to remove the kerosine depot further down the river.

WE ARE glad to read in the columns of the *Englishman*, the *Statesman* and the *Indian Daily News*, kindly notices of Babu Preolal Dey's non-alcoholic Lime Juice, and of the award for it of a silver medal and a certificate of honor, by the Victoria Jubilee Exhibition of 1884-85. The Babu is deserving of every encouragement for his discovery of a simple and very effectual process for preserving the freshness and flavor of the juice. Since the discovery of the anti-scorbutic virtues of the juice, nearly a century ago, the demand for it on board ship has been great, but it was until lately impossible to preserve it without a large admixture of ingredients which totally destroyed its flavor, or seriously impaired its medicinal virtues. The old Indian plan was to put in a large quantity of common salt——about three times as much as is to be found in brine—in the preserved lime the ratio of salt is about 25 per cent. In Europe mineral acids—the sulphuric and the muriatic principally—were largely tried, and the present practice is to put in a considerable percentage of alcohol. Babu Preolal Dey obviates the use of this objectionable substance by his new process, and the article he produces is practically (of course not chemically) the purest to be had. It retains the flavor of the fruit and its medicinal properties unimpaired for years. And this is a great recommendation to the use of the juice on board ship. Under the orders of Government every ship going out to sea is bound to carry an adequate supply of lime juice, and scurvy as a disease has become all but extinct by its use. And to those who have to take an ounce or more of lime juice every morning it is much more convenient and palatable to have a fluid that retains the flavor, taste and character of the fresh fruit than to swallow a nauseous medicated stuff which upsets all appetite for breakfast. To Indians on board ships the non-alcoholic juice is a positive blessing. To most of our readers, who have not to go on sea voyages this might not come home so readily as we could wish; but dyspepsia and indigestion are complaints to which many of them are painfully subject, and we can confidently assert that they will find in the juice a valuable remedy. A medical gentleman once announced that an ounce of lime juice every morning after the 60th year of one's age is a sovereign prophylactic, and the reputation which *jurak nebu* enjoys in this country indicates that his theory is at least plausible.

THE ADJOURNED hearing of the rules against Mr. Hastie came on before Justices Wilson and Norris on Wednesday last, when both the rules were discharged, and Mr. Hastie was declared an insolvent under Chapter XX of the Civil Procedure Code, and the official Assignee was appointed Receiver to his estate. The security will remain in force to secure the attendance of the debtor when needed. The proceedings in the Insolvency Court have been stayed.

REUTER telegraphs that according to a telegram published in the *Times* peace has been concluded between France and China through the efforts of Sir Robert Hart, on the basis of the Fournier Convention. There will be no payment of indemnity. In France a new ministry has been formed under the presidency of Mr. Henry Brisson. M de Freycinet, who was reported to have failed to form a new ministry on the resignation of M. Ferry, has been appointed Minister of Foreign affairs. A later telegram announces that the Chinese Foreign Office has ratified the preliminaries of peace. Yet the end of the war may be as distant as ever

because we see it was declared in the Chamber of Deputies that the Government will insist upon the execution of the Tienstein treaty, and that, if negotiations for peace fail, war will be vigorously carried on. It is in this view of course that the balance of the extraordinary credit of 200,000,000, francs for Tonquin has been voted. The asking for this extraordinary credit, it will be remembered, led to the overthrow of the Ferry ministry; but since the Chamber has after all voted the credit, it is clear that the nation continues in a warlike mood.

BURDWAN and Birbhum do not seem to be the only parts of the country suffering from excessive scarcity amounting almost to famine. The Debrughur correspondent of the *Statesman* telegraphs that scarcity of rice is reported from four villages. The people are starving for three or four days, or feeding upon wild roots. If tardy official formalities be observed people will die by the scores. Prompt measures are necessary.

THE EXHORTATIONS of Mr. Parnell and the Parnelites to keep away from demonstrations in honour of a foreign prince seem to have been lost, as they should have been, on the Irish public. The Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Albert Victor, who arrived at Dublin on the 8th instant, were greeted by large crowds with great enthusiam. In reply to an address, His Royal Highness expressed a hope that this would not be his last visit to Dublin.

IT IS not the people and the Feudatory Princes and Chiefs alone who are manifesting their solicitude for the protection of British interests in India by loyally placing their resources at the disposal of the Government at the present crisis. The neighbouring friendly powers also, we are happy to observe, are coming forward with offers of material help. The Government of Nepal have offered the services of 15,000 Goorkhas, who are to be placed under British officers, and will be entirely at the disposal of our Government. It is also declared that the Durbar will give every facility in their territory for recruiting for Goorkha regiments.

WE HAVE had lying on our table a bi-lingual Lecture in English and French on the necessity of learning French in India, by Babu Prankristo Chowdry. The author is well known as a public spirited "citizen" of Chandernagore. His services in the cause of progress and political reform in the little historic colony have endeared his name to the local public, and won for him conspicuous honors from the Government of the republic. In the lecture before us, Babu Prankristo wishes to impress on our countrymen the importance of the study of a language rich with the wealth of a literature such as few countries in modern Europe, can boast. In the eloquent words of the lecturer, "Whether we view it as the language in which Molier and Racine sang, the language in which Descartes, Rousseau and Voltaire, Cousin and Compte thought, the language in which Bossuet shaped and wielded his invincible weapons of polemical warfare, the language in which Laplace elaborated those theories in the realms of analysis which are still the delight and admiration of scientific Europe and America, the French is the language of beauty, the language of eloquence, the language of deep and brilliant thought, and, last though not least, the language of diplomacy in Europe, and as such it will ever command the adoration of enlightened men."

BABU Sreenath Banerjea, the enterprising publisher of law books, has, under the patronage of Government, brought out the third volume of his Privy Council Judgments from 1871 to 1878, both years inclusive. The book has been edited with great care by Pandit Prannath Saraswati, M.A., B.L., Pleader, High Court, Calcutta, and Babu Bidubhusan Banerjea, B.A., B.L., Pleader, Judge's Court, Alipore. It contains all the cases published in Law Reports on Indian Appeals, Vols. 1 to 6, the supplemental volume of the same series, the Bengal Law Reports Vols. X to XV, the Indian Law Reports, Calcutta series, Vols. 1 to 4, and the Madras, Bombay, and Allahabad series of the same Reports Vols. 1 and 2, and all the cases in Moore's Indian Appeals not given in the second volume of that work. There are also some cases not to be found in any of the above Reports. Babu Sreenath Banerjea's edition is the only cheap edition of the authorized reports, and as such it will supply a real and deeply-felt want. We have no hesitation in saying that the book will be highly useful to the Bench and the Bar as well as to the Legal Profession.

ON THE subject of the relations between Zemindars and the Opium Department, the Patna Agent has the following remarks:

"During the year 76 begahs 17½ cottahs of land (Behar measurement), cultivated by 114 ryots, have been given up in consequence of the zemindar, demanding an enhanced, and what I consider an exorbitant, rent for poppy land. A document was presented for registration at Seetamurhi, purporting to be an agreement on the part of the ryots of certain villages to pay when called upon enhanced rents for their land. The demand varied not according to the quality of the land, but according to the crop grown: that for poppy land was Rs. 3 per begha instead of Rs 3-12 to Rs. 4-10 hitherto paid. When the ryots were summoned before the registering officer, they refused to admit the execution of this document, and they have to the extent above noted given up the cultivation of poppy rather than run the risk of being called on to pay such a heavy rent. Some petitions were presented to me, asking me to help them in resisting the demand. I consider that no landlord has a right to make the growing of poppy or any other crop a ground for enhancing rent, and I also consider that the zemindar was acting illegally in demanding an enhancement without having a notice served through the courts in accordance with the law. I therefore wrote to the manager, and asked him to forego the claim; he replied that a small increase was asked on poppy lands, that no exaction or illegality had been committed, and that the settlement was voluntarily and amicably made by those who entered into it. I then pointed out my views, and added that the fact of the ryots petitioning me, and refusing to register the agreement, showed that the settlement on their part was not voluntary or amicable, and I stated that the case was just such a one as would justify my interference under section 18 of Act XII of 1857. To this letter I have received no reply, but I saw the petitioners and informed them of what I had done, and promised my help to any one who, having a right of occupancy, was called on to pay an enhanced rent on the ground of his taking an advance from Government and growing poppy. The question is an important one, as landlords all over Behar demand higher rates for poppy lands, and if these be not paid, prevent the cultivation and the digging of wells, &c., I am in correspondence with the law officer to know how the powers conferred on an Opium Agent by Act XIII of 1857 are affected by the rent laws of 1869.

In the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor the practice of demanding exceptionally large enhancements of rent, "if a raiyat be enterprising enough to grow a specially valuable crop, is mischievous to the agricultural prosperity of the country. It is, however, a practice which finds no recognition in the Bengal Tenancy Act," and the officers, therefore, are virtually enjoined to let no fitting opportunity pass to put down the tyrannical exercise of power of the all-grasping zemindar, the sworn enemy of the agricultural prosperity of the country! The Bengal Tenancy Act will soon bring on the millennium, and there will be no longer any exactions on the part of the zemindars. The raiyats may enjoy the lands at pepper-corn rent.

WE BEG to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following publications :—

1. Returns of Railway-borne traffic during the quarter ending 31st December 1884.
2. Prasaba Tutwa.
3. The Vichar Sagara.
4. The Harvest Field No. 10.
5. Six copies of Army Circulars, India, 1885.
6. Parmenides of Plato; a dialogue on the Gods.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN DISEASES OF THE THROAT.—Sir G. Duncan Gibb, Bart., M. D., LL. D. Physician and Lecturer on Forensic Medicine, Westminister Hospital, author of various works on Diseases of the Throat and Larynx, writes :—"The experience of many years has abundantly proved the truth of every word said in favour of Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil by many of our first Physicians and Chemists, thus stamping him as a high authority and an able Chemist whose investigations have remained unquestioned. Its value, therefore, as a therapeutic agent in a number of diseases, chiefly of an exhaustive character, has been admitted by the world of medicine; but, in addition, I have found it a remedy of great power in the treatment of many Affections of the Throat and Larynx, especially in Consumption of the latter, where it will sustain life when everything else fails. Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil has an agreeable flavour, is very palatable, and liked by children; hence its value in the third stage of Hooping-Cough, when it acts as a restorative and tonic." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette—*April 8th* 1885.

Notification—6th April—The following instructions are notified for the guidance of officers corresponding directly with the Government of Bengal during the time His Honour the Lieutenant Governor is at Darjeeling:—

As a general rule, all communications should be sent, as usual, to the Secretariat at Calcutta; but communications which are urgent, and which can be made complete in themselves, so as not to require reference to papers at the Presidency, may be sent direct to the Secretary of the department concerned with the Lieutenant-Governor at Darjeeling.

General—1st April—Mr J F K Hewitt, Comr, Chota Nagpore Division, to act as Comr, Patna Divn, during absence of Mr F M Halliday.

Mr C C Stevens, Magte and Colr, 24-Perghs, to act as Comr, Chota Nagpore Divn, during absence, on deputn, of Mr J F K Hewitt.

Mr A W Paul, Jt-Magte and Depy Colr, 24-Perghs to act as Magte and Colr of that dist, during absence, on deputn, of Mr C C Stevens.

Mr E E Lowis, Offg Comr, Dacca Divn, to act as Comr of Burdwan Divn, during absence on deputn of Mr J Beames.

Mr W R Lurminie, Magte and Colr, Nuddea, on leave, to act as Comr, Dacca Divn, during the absence on furlough of Mr N S Alexander.

2nd April,-Mr E G Glazier, Magte and Colr, Mymensing, leave for two months and fourteen days, from 28th inst.

Mr L Hare, Jt Magte and Depy Colr, Purneah, to act as Magte and Colr of Jessore, during absence of Mr E J Barton.

7th April—Babu Bhoirub Nath Palit, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Maldah, is transfd to the Sudder Station of Pubna.

The Services of Lieut G W Keane, tempry extra Aide-de-Camp on the Persl Staff of the Lieut Govr of Bengal, are replaced at the disposal of the Govt of India, in the Milty Dept, from 10th inst.

Mr F J Marsden, Chief Presdy Magte, Calcutta, leave for seven months from 22nd inst.

Mr C J O'Donnell, Joint-Magte and Depy Collr, Howrah, to act as Magte and Depy Collr of Howrah, during absence on deputn of Mr W H Grimley.

Mr H Holmwood, Asst Magte and Collr, Atia, Mymensing is transfd to the sudder Station of Pubna.

Mr K J Badshah, Offg Jt Magte and Depy Collr, Madaripore, Furreedpore, is transfd to Mymensingh, and to have charge of the Atia sub-division.

Baboo Rojoni Nath Chatterjee, Depy Magte and Depy Collr, Moonshigunge, Dacca, is transfd to Furreedpore, and to have charge of the Madaripore sub-division.

Baboo Gonendro Nath Pal, Tempy Depy Magte and Depy Collr, Simgoree, Darjeeling, on leave, is transfd to Dacca and to have charge of the Moonshigunge sub-divn.

Baboo Roghu Nath Shahi, Tempy Depy Magte and Depy Collr, on special duty, is posted to the sudder station of Sarun.

Mr D J Macpherson, Offg Jt-Magte and Depy Collr, on special duty, is posted to Shahabad, and to have charge of the Sasseram sub-divn.

Mr A W Cosserat Depy Magte and Depy Collr, Bogra, on leave, is transfd to the sudder station of Tipperah.

Mr H Thompson, Depy Magte and Depy Collr, Tipperah, is transfd temply to the sudder station of Chittagong.

Mr W O'Reilly, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Rajmehal, Sonthal Perghs, is transfd to the sudder station of Monghyr.

Mr S J Douglas, Asst Magte and Colr, on leave, is posted to the sudder station of Chittagong.

Mr Douglas is to act in second grade of Jt-Magtes and Depy Colrs.

Baboo Ram Anugrah Narayan Singh, Temny Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Sasseram, Shahabad, is transfd to the sudder station of Purneah.

Baboo Anoodip rsad Ghose, Depy Magte and D py Colr and Personal Asst to the Comr of the Burdwan Divn, to act as First Pers Asst to the Comr of the Presidency Divn, during absence, on deputn, of Baboo Doorgagutty Banerjee.

Moulvie Anwar Ahmed, Tempy Sub-Depy Colr, Tajpore, Durbunga, leave for 14 days, in extension of leave granted 3rd ult.

Mr H F Mathews, Jt Magte and Depy Colr, Manbhoom, is transfd to the sudder station of Gya.

Ecclesiastical—4th April—the Rev H O Moor to act as Jr Chapln of St Pauls Cathedral and Chapln of the Genl Hospital, during absence of the Rev A Kitchin, from 23d ult.

Education—4th April—Baboo Dina Nath Sen, Jt-Inspr of Schools, Dacca Circle, acted as Inspr of Schools, Eastern Circle and in class IV. of Bengal Educatal Service, from 8th Nov. 1884, to 7th Febry 1885 inclusive, during absence of D C A Martin.

6th April—Rai Sohun Lal, Urdu and Hindi Translator to Govt, leave for three months from date he may avail himself or it.

Baboo Kanai Lall Shastri to act as Urdu and Hindi Translator to Govt, during absence of Rai Sohun Lal.

Judicial—Baboo Bani Madhub Mitter, First Sub Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, Backergunge, leave for one month, from date he may be relieved.

Baboo Nilmoni Dass, Offg Sub Judge and small Cause Court Judge, Pubna, to act as First Sub Judge and Small Cause Court Judge, Backergunge, during absence of Baboo Beni Madhub Mitter.

Baboo Ganendro Nath Pal, Tempy Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Moonshigunge, Dacca, is vested with the powers of a Magte, first class.

Baboo Roghu Nath Shahi, Tempy Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Sarun, is vested with the powers of a Magte, third class

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

To let and to sell "Sunny side" cottage at Kurseong.

Apply at once to—

H. K. DOOBAY,
Jubbulpur.

NOTICE.

Persons exercising any trade, profession or calling within the town and all itenerant dealers, hawkers, and pedlars are reminded that they should at once apply for licenses in accordance with the 3rd schedule of Act IV of 1876 for the official year 1885-86 as all licenses granted in 1884-85 expired on the 31st March last. Until new assessments are made for 1885-86, assessment for the previous year shall hold good and any notice or notices served for such assessments should be considered as valid for all purposes of law for assessments for 1885-86 and dealt accordingly.

Notice is hereby given that under Section 67 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876, licenses for carriages, horses, ponies or mules kept within the town for the half year commencing at April, 1885, should be taken out at once. To avoid mistakes, gentlemen applying for licenses who do not keep their carriages or horses at the place where the application is written are requested to note the place or places where they keep their conveyances and horses. Persons failing to take out licenses will render themselves liable to penalties of the law.

By Order,
NOBOGOPAL MITTER,
License Officer.

Municipal Commissioner's Office,
4, Municipal Office Street,
Dated the 1st April, 1885.

NOTICE

Is hereby given that the Registration of Carts Hackeries and other wheeled Vehicles without springs for the 1st half year of the official year 1885-86 will, under section 83 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876 commence from the 1st of April, 1885, and that a fee of Rs. 4 will be required at the time for each Registration under section 85 of Act IV (B. C.) of 1876.

By Order,
NOBOGOPAL MITTER,
Registrar of Carts and Hackeries.

INSOLVENCY NOTICE.

In the matter of Doyalchand Pyne
Gopee Mohun Pyne
Kissory Mohun Pyne
Mohendro Nath Pyne.

To be sold by public auction by the official Assignee at his Office No. 8 Strand, Calcutta, on Monday the 27th day of April 1885, at the hour of 1 P. M. pursuant to an order of Court made in the above matter on and bearing date the 11th day of March 1885, with the concurrence of the Mortgagees, the under-mentioned Property appertaining to the above estate of the above named Insolvents.

Lot No. 1.—All that upper-roomed brick built House containing by estimation 1 biggah 7 cattahs and 8 chittacks, more or less, situate at No. 27 Durponarain Tagore's Street in Calcutta and butted and bounded as follows; on the east partly by the Land Premises of Lallmohun Roy, partly by the House and premises of the late Jaggomohun Mullick and partly by the Public Drain, on the west by the houses, Lands and Premises of Gopaul Chunder Auddy, Brojochunder Auddy and others, on the north by public Drain, and on the south partly by the land of the said Lallmohun Roy and partly by a Public Drain, the same being in Sootanooty and held free of rent.

Lot No. 2.—All that piece or parcel of land or ground, containing by estimation 1 cottah and 5 chittacks, more or less, situate at No. 15 Gangooly's Lane, Juggernath Ghat, Durmahatta Street in Calcutta, being a portion of the Holding No. 7 and Block No. XXIII. North Division, Calcutta, (which holding pay rent to the Government of rupee one and four annas and eleven pie) and butted and bounded on the north by the House of Bhootmoney Dassee, on the south by Gangooly's Lane, on the east by the Premises No. 14, and on the west partly by the House of Shamachurn Mullick deceased and partly by the House of Doorgachurn Paul.

Lot No 3.—All that Bharee Land, containing by estimation 373 biggahs 3 cattahs and 7 chittacks, situate at East Noabad, Holding No. 4, sub-division 1. called Mousa East Noabad, Division 2, Dehi Oltadinghee, bounded on the north by Holding No. 3, east by Holding No. 2 Khettercanto Mookerjee, on the south by No. 5 Rajnarain Dutt, and on the west by Holding Nos. 60 and 59 of sub-division No. 2, paying an annual revenue of Rs. 94-10-9 being in the Registration District of Alipore and in the Sub-District of Sealdah Thanna Bhangur,

Lot No. 4.—All that Garden Land with buildings thereon containing by estimation 5 biggahs and 15 chittacks, situate lying and being at Bagmaree Road, bounded on the north by Public Road, on the east by a Public Lane and No 7, on the south by No. 8 and on the west by Holding No. 8 and a Public Lane and paying an annual rent of Rs. 2-15-6 to Government in the Registration District of Alipore and Sub-District of Sealdah.

The abstract of title and conditions of sale may be seen at the office No. 9 Old Post Office Street, of Messrs. Swinhoe and Chunder, Attorneys for the Mortgagees and will be produced at the time of sale.

J. C. MACGREGOR,
Official Assignee.

£20,000. TWENTY-THOUSAND POUNDS

To be distributed on the GREAT

Melbourne Cup Race of 1885.

150 Horses entered! Run about 3rd Nov.!

ALL PRIZES! NO BLANKS!

Tenth Annual Sweep of the popular
"AUSTRALIAN TURF CLUB."
Organised 1868.

These Mammoth Drawings are supervised by the Ticket Holders, and witnessed by Members of the Press, Merchants, Lawyers, Doctors, Magistrates, and Members of Parliament.
Capital £20,000 in 20,000 SHARES of £1 each, divided as follows:—

First Horse.....	£3,000	4 Prizes of	£500	... £2,000
Second Horse.....	1,000	8 Prizes of	250	... 2,000
Third Horse	1,000	10 Prizes of	200	... 2,000
Starters divide	1,000	20 Prizes of	100	... 2,000
Non-Starters divide...	1,000	Total		£15,000

The remaining £5,000 will be employed by the Club in making up a Book on the Cup and other races, that is, laying and taking the odds for and against certain horses, by an entirely new system, the success of which was practically proved last year, when the profits resulting therefrom realised over £12,000. The whole of the winnings including principal and profits to be equally divided amongst those subscribers who will be unsuccessful in drawing either a horse or Prize in the great Sweep. Every subscriber to receive a Prize be it large or small. To avoid delay, all Indain Prizes will be remitted immediately after race, by an Order on the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, payable at Calcutta. Drawing held on the 20th Oct next. Printed slips of winning numbers posted to all ticket-holders immediately after. Money received too late will be returned. Ten per cent. commission deducted from the prizes. In remitting money for tickets, send Bank Drafts, Post Office Orders, Notes, or Gold, latter should be registered and six-pence extra to cover cost of return postage. Enclose self-addressed envelope. Address all letters and make all orders payable to THOMAS FAULKNER, secretary, "A. T. C.," 635 George Street, Sydney, Australia.

NOTICE TO PRINTER:

Above advertisement to be translated into the same language or vernacular as that used by newspaper to which this order is addressed.

FOR SALE CHEAP.

Only 500 copies of Mr. Holwell's Narrative of the Black-Hole and Graphic description of its massacre, Price 4 As. Post free. Apply to K. Lahiri Esq., 12, Mission Row, Calcutta.

JUST LOOK.

THE NEWS OF THE DAY.

(A DAILY PI E-PAPER IN ENGLISH.)

Is being published from the 1st April last at 4 P. M. every afternoon. It contains fresh Telegrams, copious News, current Topics, splendid Extracts, besides a lot of original matter.

All this for one Pice only.

Rates of subscription:—Mofussil (*including Postage*) yearly Rs. 10, half yearly Rs. 5, Monthly Re. 1. Town (*without Postage*): yearly Rs. 6, half yearly Rs 8, monthly As. 8. *Payable in advance*:

☞ *No Postage for at least 10 copies in one cover.*

This paper is very widely and extensively circulated in India and British Burmah and it is therefore the fittest medium for advertisements of all sorts. Rate of Advertisement 2 pice per line. Special contract rates for at least 6 months.

Specimen copies sent on receipt of a half anna postage stamp.

PRASANNAKUMAR GANGULI,
Manager.

The New Sanskrit Press,
2, Goa Bagan Street,
Calcutta.

NOTICE.

Mackenzie Lyall & Co., will sell by auction to the highest bidder for and on account and risk of the concerned on Thursday the 30th April current.

A consignment of 5 Patent Quadruple action (i.e. 4 Decanter) PNEUMATIC ICE MACHINES by Edmound Carre of Paris.

The Ice Machines will be on view and will also be worked to show that they are in good order. Orders to purchase giving a limit of bid will be duly attended to if accompanied by a remittance on account; the amount of such remittance will be returned if the purchase is not effected.

THE
INDIAN AGRICULTURAL GAZETTE
A
MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF
AGRICULTURE, ARTS AND COMMERCE

THE whole continent of India does not boast of a single paper, dealing with economic matters adequately and in popular form. The above is meant to supply this desideratum. It will consist of six forms foolscap size, and will be published on the last day of every Calendar English month beginning from April next.

To give the public a fair idea of what the paper is likely to be, we have permission to add that the contributing staff will consist of men who are competent to treat their respective subjects of which they are recognized authorities. Specially trained officers from the civil and other services having scientific knowledge and practical experience of both foreign and Indian economic questions, have kindly promised their hearty co-operation.

Rates of subscription both in Town and Mofussil:—
Rs. 4 yearly.

Subscriptions will be payable strictly in advance. Intending subscribers are requested to send in their remittances with names and addresses to the Manager.

G. C. PAULIT ESQ.,
34-1 *Kalutola Street, Bangabasi Press, Calcutta.*

NIZAMUT JEWEL SALE.

UNDER INSTRUCTIONS
FROM
GOVERNMENT
AND
His Highness the Nawab of Moorshedabad,

HAMILTON & CO.

WILL SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
TO THE HIGHEST BIDDERS,
On Monday the 20th April, and following days,
THE WHOLE OF THE
MOORSHEDABAD STATE JEWELS,
COMPRISING
GEMS
OF GREAT ANTIQUITY AND VALUE.
ALSO BY ORDER OF THE RECEIVER OF THE HIGH COURT, A QUANTITY OF MISCELLANEOUS JEWELLERY,
Catalogues are now ready.
HAMILTON & CO.
Jewellers to Government,
Calcutta.

THE CO-OPERATIVE PHARMACY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Surgeons, Apothecaries and Pharmaceutical Chemists,

54, SOVA BAZAR AND 371, UPPER CHITPORE ROAD, CALCUTTA.

AESCULAP.

A positive remedy for dysentery and all affections of the Stomach, Liver and Kidneys. It checks fever, and reduces its force in the early stages. It is the only palatable natural aperient water. The best remedy and specific for constipation, especially suited to women and children. Useful in billiousness and all other affections of the Liver. Useful in dyspepsia, loss of appetite, want of energy. It purifies the Kidneys and cures Gout, Rheumatism, Pain in the Loins, and Prevents stone and gravel.

~~Rs~~ 1/4 *each Bottle.*

HOFF'S MALT EXTRACT.

(BEVERAGE OF HEALTH.)

It is the most nourishing and valuable dietetic beverage for the aged, weak, and nursing mothers and far more nourishing than any alcoholic liquors. It is officially recognised by the Faculty in England and abroad.

~~Rs~~ 1/12 *each Bottle.*

BENGER'S SELF-DIGESTIVE FOOD.

(PANCREATISED.)

The best, delicious and highly nutritive food ever discovered for infants and invalids. It is largely patronised by the medical faculty every where.

~~Rs~~ 1/4 *per Tin.*

MELLIN'S INFANTS FOOD.

One of the best nutritive food for infants and invalids in the market.

~~Rs~~ 1/4 *each Phial.*

SYR. FERRI LACTATIS.

One of the most Palatable and readily assimilable form of iron.

4 *oz.* ~~Rs~~ 1/8

HYDROLIEN.

(HYDRATED OIL.)

Prepared on the principles of the digestion of fats, adapted to all the uses of Cod Liver Oil, more simple to administer than plain Cod Liver Oil. The Cod Liver Oil is put in such a form as to be readily assimilable, produces no unpleasant eructation or sense of nausea. It is Tonic, Digestive and Highly Nutritive. It produces invariably immediate increase in flesh and weight, valuable in Pthisis and all wasting diseases.

~~Rs~~ 3/8 *per Phial.*

NOTICE.

Wanted for the Permanent Establishment Public Works Department a Sub-Overseer 3rd Grade on a salary of Rs. 25 per month, with usual travelling allowance as per Code rules. The candidate must be qualified in Surveying and Levelling and must be able to correspond and submit accounts in English. The successful candidate will be appointed in the first instance on probation for six months only.

2. All applications with copies of testimonials should be forwarded, so as to reach the undersigned on or before the 30th proximo.

3. The applicants should forward certificates of age with their applications.

C. TAYLOR,
Executive Engineer,
Brahmini Byturni Division.

Cuttack, the 28th March 1885.

POSTAL NOTICE.

EXCHANGE OF PARCELS WITH VICTORIA.

From the 1st April, 1885, parcels may be exchanged between India and the Colony of Victoria (Australia).

2. The conditions governing the limits of size and weight, the contents, and the rates of Postage of parcels sent from India to Victoria, will be the same as those laid down in Section IV of the *Postal Guide* for parcels sent from India to the United Kingdom.

3. Parcels sent from India to Victoria may not exceed £50 in value.

4. Each parcel should be accompanied by a declaration of its contents and their value, in the prescribed form.

5. Prepayment of postage on parcels despatched from India will ensure the free conveyance of the parcels only to such places in Victoria as are accessible by rail or coach; and any charges incurred for the further transmission of parcels to places not so accessible will be recovered from the addressees in Victoria.

CALCUTTA, *23rd March* 1885. } A. U. FANSHAWE, *Offg. Director General of the Post Office of India.*

SCHWEITZER'S COCOATINA.

Anti-Dyspeptic Cocoa or Chocolate Powder.

GUARNTEED PURE SOLUBLE COCOA OF THE FINEST QUALITY, WITHOUT SUGAR OR ADMIXTURE.

The Faculty pronounce it the "most nutritious, perfectly digestible beverage for *Breakfast, Luncheon, or Supper;*" and invaluable for Invalids and Young Children.

Being absolutely "all Cocoa," with the excess of fat extracted, is four times the strength of preparations thickened yet weakened with arrowroot, starch, &c., and in reality cheaper than such mixtures. Made instantaneously with boiling water and palatable without milk, a teaspoonful to a breakfast cup costing less than one halfpenny.

COCOATINA is the best Cocoa for INDIA and the COLONIES, *keeping for years in all climates,* being in a concentrated form.

Celebrated for remarkable Sustaining Properties. Specially adapted for Early Breakfasts. Adopted as a Medical Comfort the Royal Navy.

Retailed by Chemists, Grocers, & in Air-tight Tins, at 1*s* 6*d.*, 3*s.*, 5*s.* 6*d.*,

Sole Proprietors.

H. SCHWEITZER & CO., 10, ADAM STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

AND ALL WHOLESALE HOUSES.

ADVANTAGES OF ASSURING WITH THE

ORIENTAL LIFE OFFICE.

All that Experience has proved Practicable and Prudent in Modern System of Life Assurance can be obtained with perfect safety,

COMBINED with the following.

FIVE NEW AND IMPORTANT FEATURE.

Not granted by any other Company whatever:—

1. Policy-holders can Vote at meetings.
2. Amalgamations *impossible.*
3. Funds in Government Securities only, and remain in India.
4. Native Lives assured at European Rates.
5. Premiums reduced to English rates from date of leaving any Port in India. Ceylon or China.

LAST 12 MONTHS' NEW BUSINESS.

738 PROPOSALS for..... .....Rs. 29,23,250

ANNUAL PREMIUM FOR ASSURANCE OF Rs. 1,000 UNDER NEW SYSTEM.

Age.	30	35	40	45
	RS. AS. P.	RS. AS. P.	RS. AS. P.	RS. AS. P.
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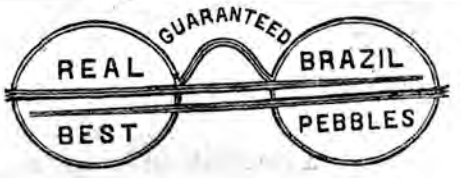

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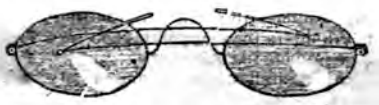

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Vrs.

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The undermentioned mahals borne in the Rev. roll of the Collectorate of Dinagepur belonging to the Judgement debtors are to be sold by the Nazir of the District Judge's Court at Dinagepur at 1 P. M. on the 4th day of May 1885 in execution of decree obtained by the aforesaid decreeholders against the aforesaid J. debtors.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Touji No.	Names of Mahals and Pergunnahs.	Government Revenue of the entire Mahals.	Names of debtors and their interest in the Mahals.	Proportionate Govt. Revenue of the shares.	REMARKS.
28	Kismat Pergunnahs Jahangirpur.	Revenue 31161-9-2½ Majuan Mashahara 7940-0.	Modhu Sudan Chowdry 12 c. k. dant. 12 1 2 2 Haru Chunder Choudry 12 c. k. dant. 12 1 2 2	Revenue 1214 7 5 Majuan Mashahara 31-0-4½ Revenue 1214-7-5 Majuan Mashahara 31-0-4½.	The two shares of the Mahals to be sold.
40	Kismat Pergunnahs Jahangirpur.	Revenue 31176 7 7½ Majuan Mashahara 796-0-0.	Modhu Sudan Chowdry 1a. 12g. Haru Chunder Choudry 1a. 12g.	Revenue 3129-10-4 1c. 1k. 10dit. Majuan Mashahara 79-9-8. Revenue 3129-10-4 1c. 1k. 10dit. Majuan Mashahara 79-9-8	Do.

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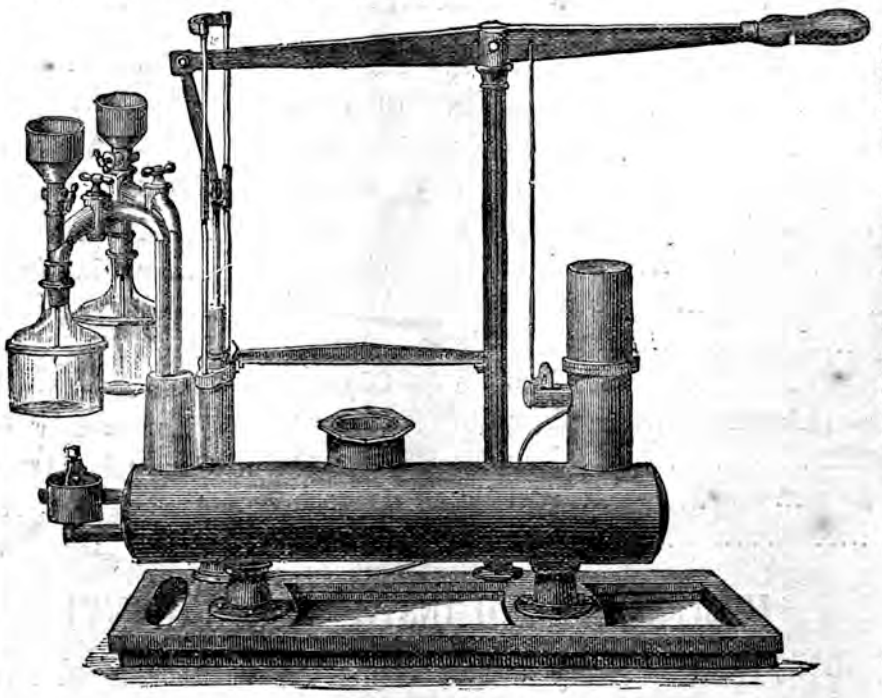

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